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IT'S A CRAP SHOOT!
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ARTIST **KELLY FREAS**

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WILLIAM M. GAINES FOUNDER
SUZY HUTCHINSON ART DIRECTOR
BERN MENDOZA ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR

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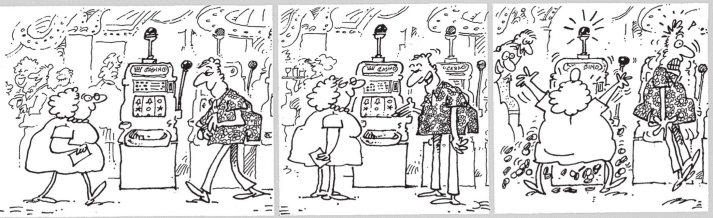
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS & WRITERS The Usual Gang of Idiots
EDITORIAL CONSULTANT Paula Sevenbergen
INSIDE BACK COVER A MAD Fold-In by Johnny Sampson
VARIOUS PLACES Drawn Out Dramas by Sergio Aragonés
COVER ARTIST Mark Frederickson

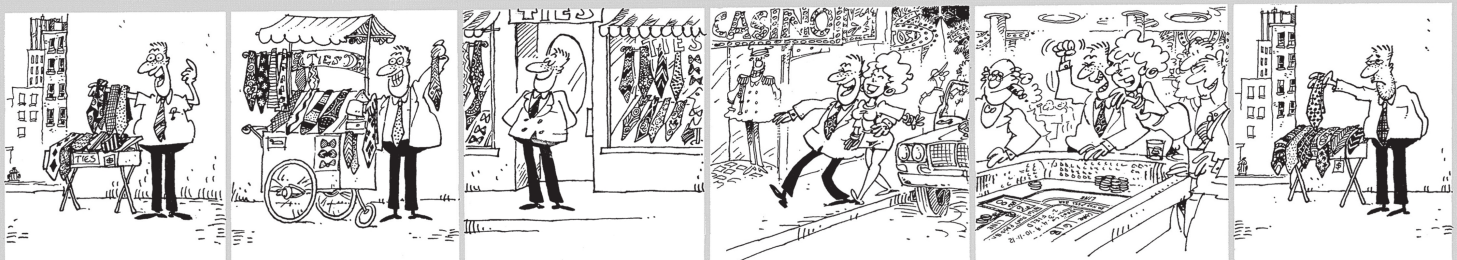
The vintage MAD pieces reprinted in this issue were produced in a time that was less mindful and sensitive to matters of race, gender, sexual identity, religion, and food allergies. The text of these articles is presented mostly unaltered (and with crossed fingers) for historical reference.

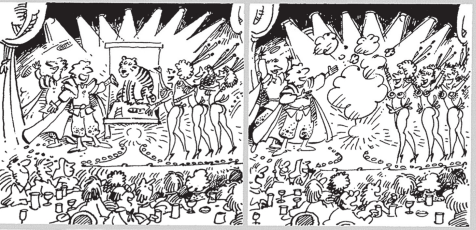
SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

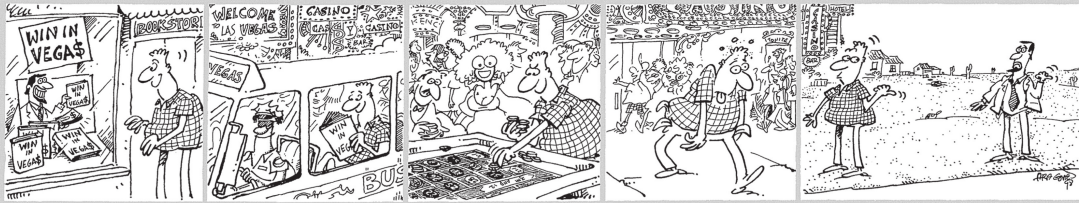
A MAD LOOK AT LAS VEGAS

WRITER & ARTIST **SERGIO ARAGONÉS**







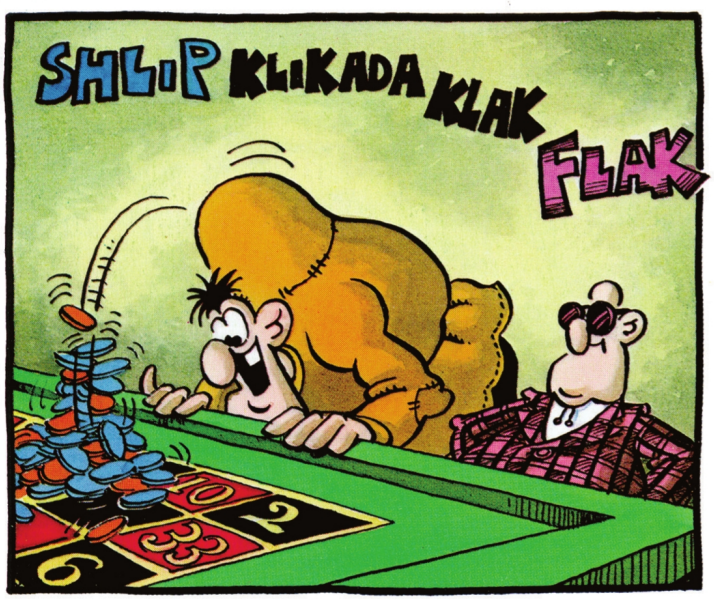


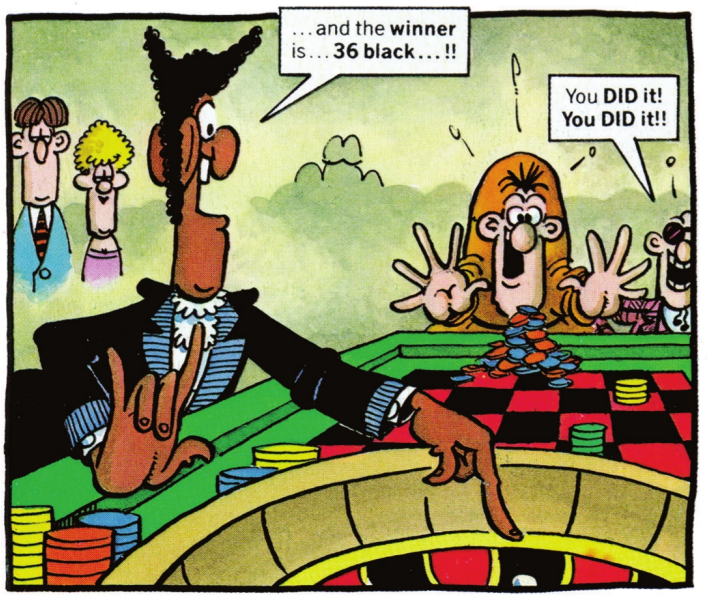
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #369, MAY 1998

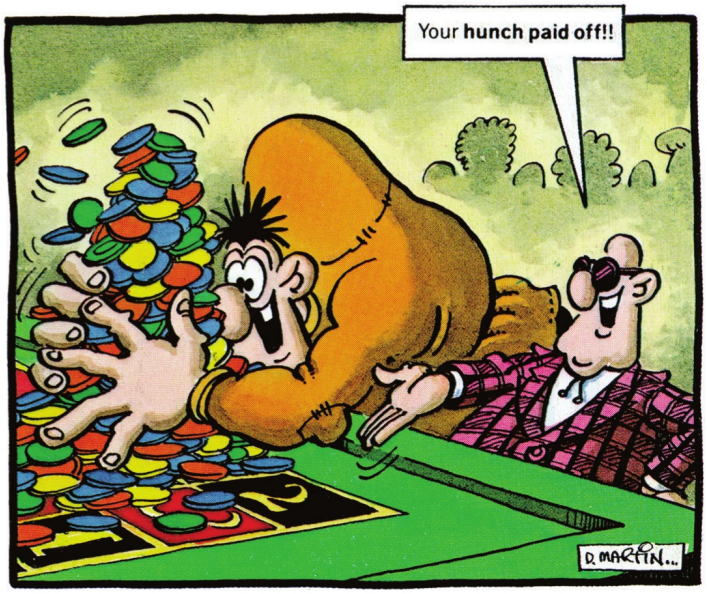
WAGER ENGAGER DEPT.

Late One Night at the Roulette Table

WRITER **DUCK EDWING** ARTIST **DON MARTIN**







ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD 84–A MAD EXTRA, 1984

MAD INVESTIGATES THE SORDID BUSINESS OF GAMBLING

WRITER **AL JAFFEE** ARTIST **WALLACE WOOD**

THE GAMBLER TYPE

The characterization by movies and television have made it easy for an ordinary person to spot a typical gambler. Using this knowledge, try to pick out the rotten no-good gambler among those below. Turn page over to check answer:

GAMBLER Yes No

G. C. Clavendish III raises thoroughbred horses for the "Sport of Kings" – Racing. He is a highly-respected member of America's upper-crust society. No one would dare call Mr. Clavendish a "Gambler"! Of course . . . if his horses win, he makes a bundle – and if his horses lose, he drops a bundle – and if that's not gambling, this ain't MAD Magazine!!

GAMBLER Yes No

Nurse Lotta Rees is one of the most successful sellers of Irish Sweepstake tickets in the U. S. A. Most people are reluctant to consider this gambling, because all the proceeds go to Irish Hospitals. But we consider it gambling, mainly because you can never be sure that your money is sent back to Ireland, or the ticket you bought isn't counterfeit.

GAMBLER Yes No

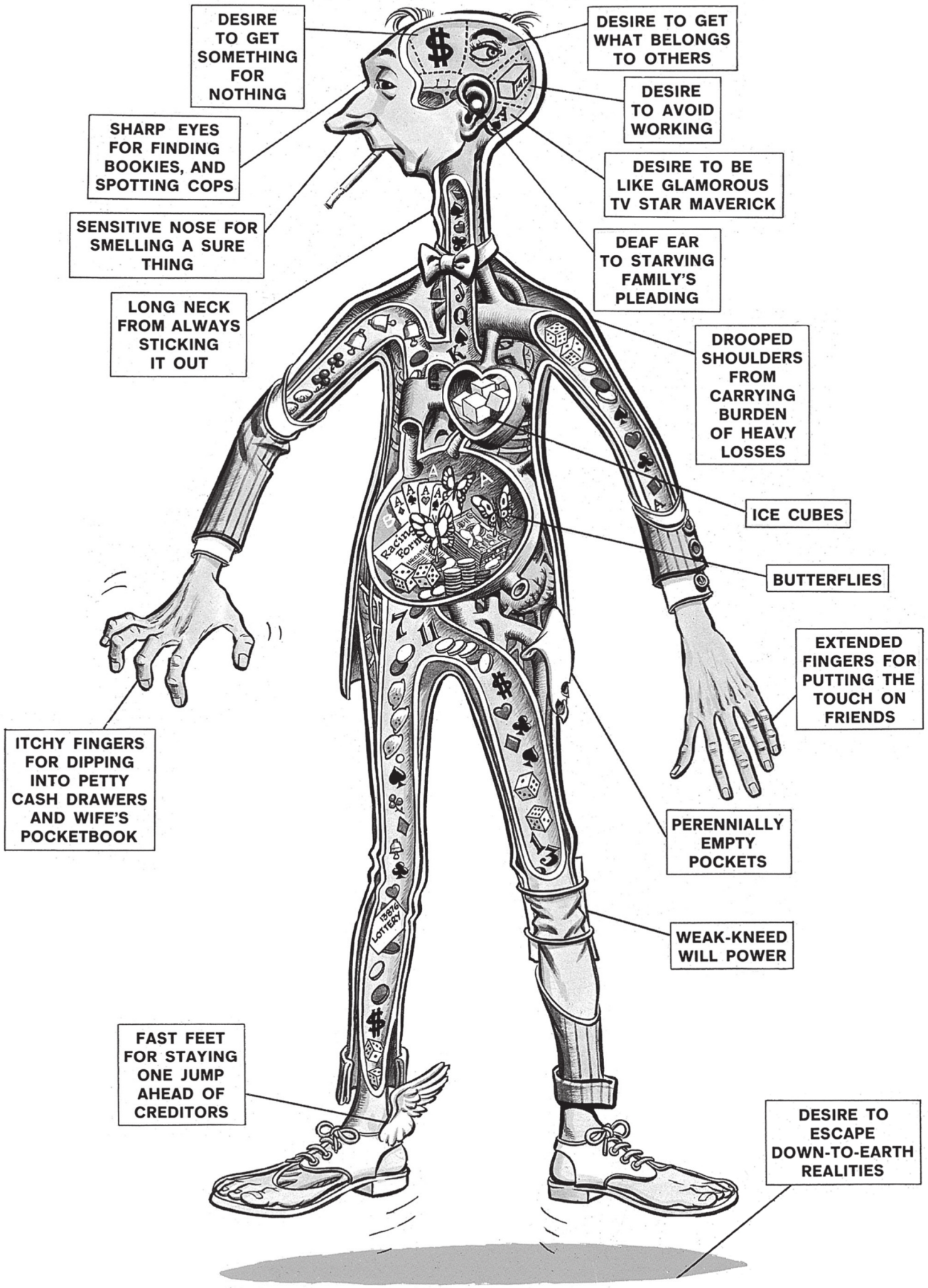
Sam (The Dip) Grafter is a top-notch promoter of those gambling bazaar nights run by charitable organizations. Although, technically, this is still gambling, which is illegal in most States, Sam gets away with it – because when it's for charity, the police sorta close one eye and look the other way. Of course, the main charity usually turns out to be Sam.

GAMBLER Yes No

Dr. Sidney A. Kindlyfellow has been conducting a one-man anti-gambling crusade for most of his life. Even with his wife and children working, Dr. Kindlyfellow is thousands of dollars in debt as a result of all the expenses that have piled up over the years while he was fighting gambling. So don't let looks deceive you! This nut is the only non-gambler!

THE ANATOMY OF A GAMBLER

Recent exhaustive tests by 5 leading N. Y. doctors reveal that the expression "Gambling is in his blood" is really a medical fact. Gambling actually beats such good things as "A's", "B's", and even "Fast-Acting Alka Seltzer" into the bloodstream. Then it goes on to make violent emotional and physiological changes in the gambler's mind and body.


DESIRE TO GET SOMETHING FOR NOTHING
DESIRE TO GET WHAT BELONGS TO OTHERS
DESIRE TO AVOID WORKING
SHARP EYES FOR FINDING BOOKIES, AND SPOTTING COPS
DESIRE TO BE LIKE GLAMOROUS TV STAR MAVERICK
SENSITIVE NOSE FOR SMELLING A SURE THING
DEAF EAR TO STARVING FAMILY'S PLEADING
LONG NECK FROM ALWAYS STICKING IT OUT
DROOPED SHOULDERS FROM CARRYING BURDEN OF HEAVY LOSSES
ICE CUBES
BUTTERFLIES
EXTENDED FINGERS FOR PUTTING THE TOUCH ON FRIENDS
ITCHY FINGERS FOR DIPPING INTO PETTY CASH DRAWERS AND WIFE'S POCKETBOOK
PERENNIALLY EMPTY POCKETS
WEAK-KNEED WILL POWER
FAST FEET FOR STAYING ONE JUMP AHEAD OF CREDITORS
DESIRE TO ESCAPE DOWN-TO-EARTH REALITIES

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GAMBLER

The road to gambling may start out innocent enough. There are many situations in everyday life where people "take a chance". These are in activities that we don't ordinarily consider gambling. In fact, they are generally in highly regarded enterprises. But the gambling bug is insidious, and once a person takes a chance in "good-type" gambling — like f'rinstance the following — he may not be able to see any difference between them and "bad-type" gambling.

BINGO

This plain, out-and-out gambling game is usually run by a non-profit organization—in hopes of making a profit. And these organizations are usually dead set against gambling. We can't figure it out either, but it's for a good cause!

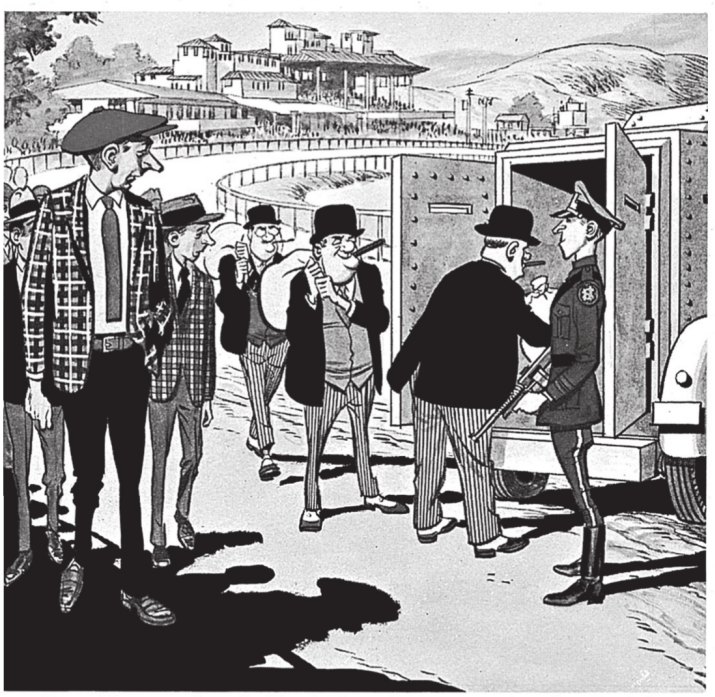
LIFE INSURANCE

When a person buys life insurance, he is really "betting" that he is going to die. The insurance company is really giving him odds that he won't. It is interesting to note that policyholder wins if he loses, and loses if he wins.

THE STOCK MARKET

Stock buyers hope stocks will go up, so they'll win. If stocks go down, they lose. Biggest gamble is in knowing nothing about guys who run companies they buy stock in, and even less about guys who talked them into buying it.

PARI-MUTUEL RACING



Roughly translated, "Pari-Mutuel" means that betting the family savings with a "Bookie" is very bad, but betting it at a race track is very good . . . mainly because the State takes a cut, and so do many other noble Public Servants.

THE EVILS OF GAMBLING

Government officials consider gambling evil because it is immoral, degrading, depressing, destructive, and repugnant. But worst evil of all in the eyes of government officials is: it's impossible to collect Income Taxes from gamblers!

GAMBLING DESTROYS FAMILY TOGETHERNESS

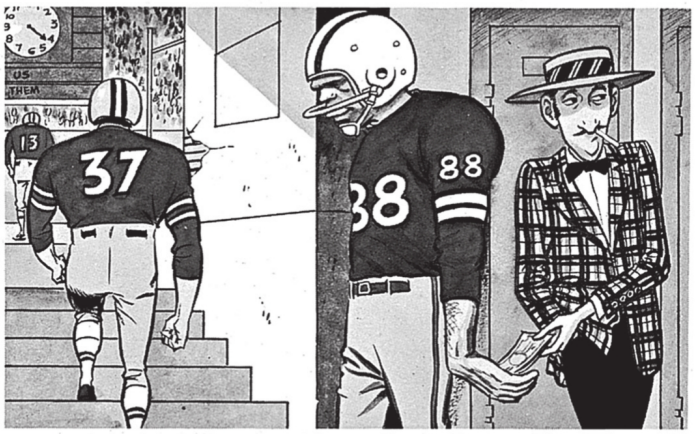
Here is a typical American Mother—gambling at Canasta when she should be home with her husband and kiddies.

Here are some typical American kids—gambling at Baseball Cards when they should be home with mother and father.

Here is a typical American father at home—placing bets with a Bookie. He should be at track where it's legal!

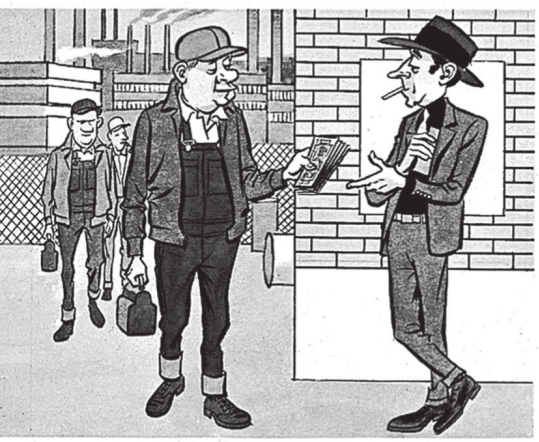
GAMBLING CORRUPTS COLLEGE YOUTH

Our colleges work hard to build winning teams. They offer athletes every inducement, including free tuition, soft jobs with high pay, passing grades and free room & board.

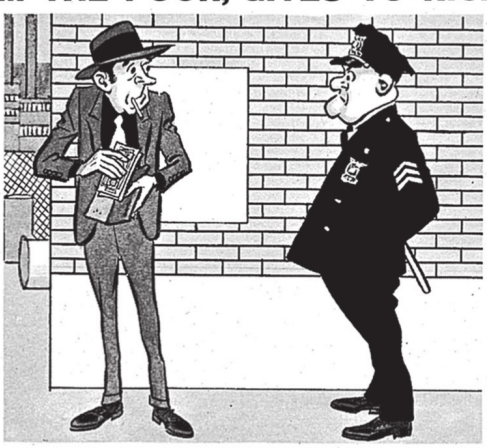


But low down dirty gamblers offer college athletes huge bribes to throw games . . . and colleges can't understand where athletes learn rotten business of accepting bribes.

GAMBLING TAKES FROM THE POOR, GIVES TO RICH



Hard-working wage-earners are enticed into gambling away their hard-earned salaries by visions of "easy money".



A professional gambler knows all the tricks, and hard-working wage-earners have small chance of seeing any profit.

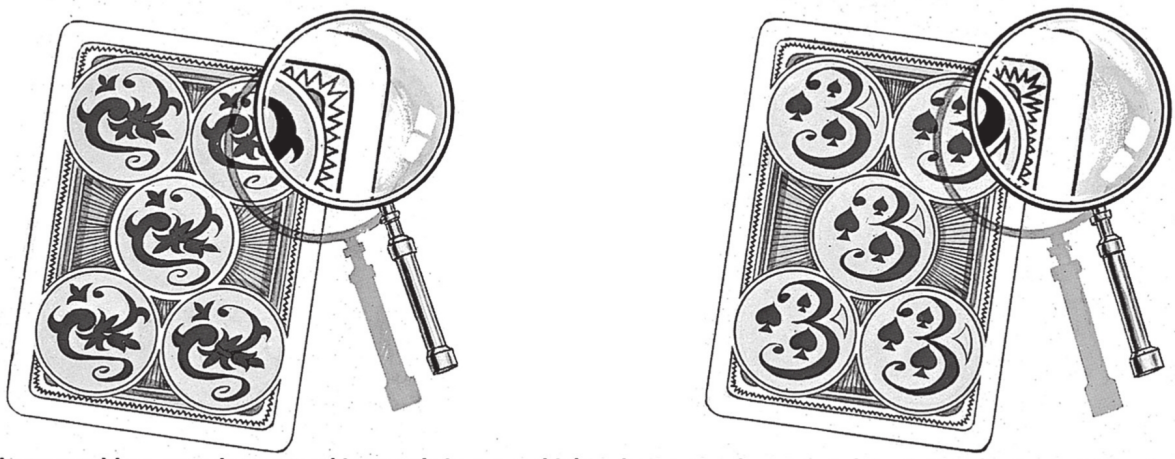
But fortunately, gamblers aren't all bad; They do allow a few hard-working wage-earners like cops to make a buck.

MAD REVEALS SECRETS OF DETECTING CROOKED GAMBLING EQUIPMENT

MARKED CARDS

NORMAL CARD

MARKED CARD

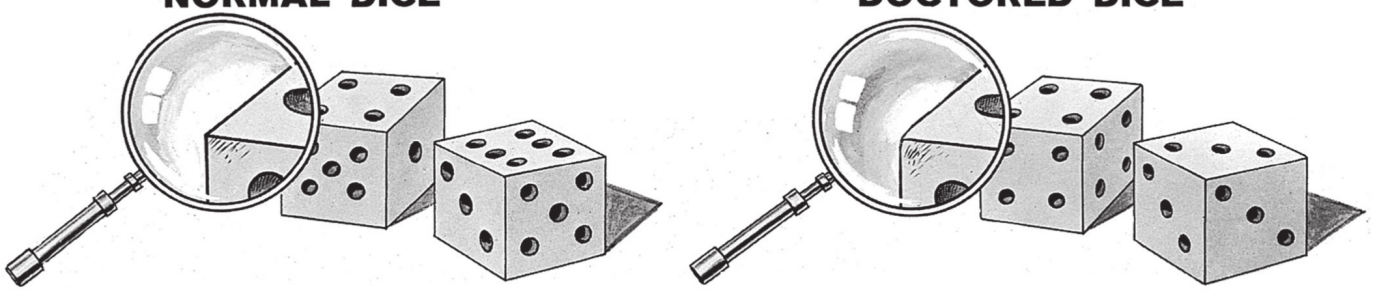


Clever gamblers are adept at marking cards in ways which only a trained eye can detect. But they're not too clever to fool us. Note how normal card at left has perfect even teeth in border design. Now look at same corner in marked card! Three teeth are a hundredth of an inch shorter than the rest. Obviously this means it's a three of some kind!

DOCTORED DICE

NORMAL DICE

DOCTORED DICE



Again, the gambler's ingenuity is applied, and again our sharp eyes detect his subtle work. Note how "legitimate" dice at left have perfectly square corners, while those "doctored" dice at right have tiny tiny beveled corners—enough to control roll. Shrewd MAD fans can easily see how gambler can throw winning "seven" almost every time.

CONTROLLED ROULETTE WHEEL

NORMAL WHEEL

CONTROLLED WHEEL

The most difficult feat of all is spotting a "Controlled" roulette wheel. But with these invaluable MAD hints, it should be simple. Note how table under "Normal" wheel is perfectly level. Now check table under "Controlled" wheel. See? It's not level! It's nearly 2/3 of one-thousandth of a centimeter off! Hah! Easy when you know this, isn't it?

WORLD LEADERS CONCERNED OVER GROWING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE VICTIMIZED BY GAMBLING

Basically, gambling is an unsavory, sleazy, depressing business. Notice how true this is in our photo of an internationally famous gambling den. Notice the shabby, degrading atmosphere. Notice the unhappiness. Notice the desperation. Notice the worried look on the faces of World Leaders concerned with the growing numbers of people being attracted to this sordid business. Notice also they are concerned mainly because if people keep being attracted, there won't be room for World Leaders to get to the tables to place bets.

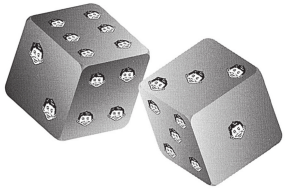
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #71, JUN 1962

IN CONCLUSION...

A word of caution to MAD readers: If you have never gambled, consider yourself fortunate! Try at all costs to keep it that way! One misstep could lead to "Gambling Fever", which in turn could mean your ruination! We're so certain of this, we're willing to bet you 10 to 1 it's true! Do we have any takers?

FOR BETTOR OR WORSE DEPT.

WHEN CASINO GAMBLING COMES TO YOUR CITY



Whenever a municipality (impressive word, eh?) is in a state of economic disarray it can do one of two things:

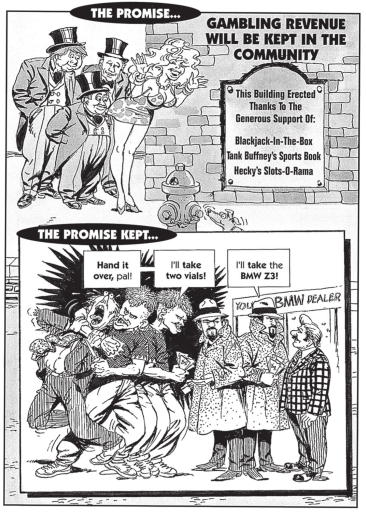
1) It can pursue a course of fiduciary responsibility through the self-imposition of austere, fiscally sound, budgetary restraints.

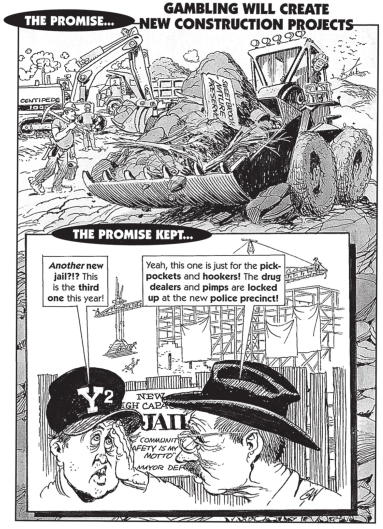
2) It can legalize casino gambling.

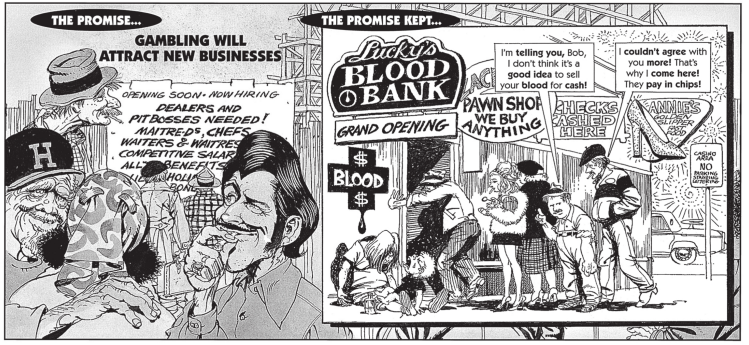
Since choice number one is impossible to understand, let alone implement, choice number two wins! But it ain't all showgirls and 99-cent shrimp cocktails (impressive word, eh?)! The promises that come with legalized gambling don't always play out the way they say they will, as you'll find out...

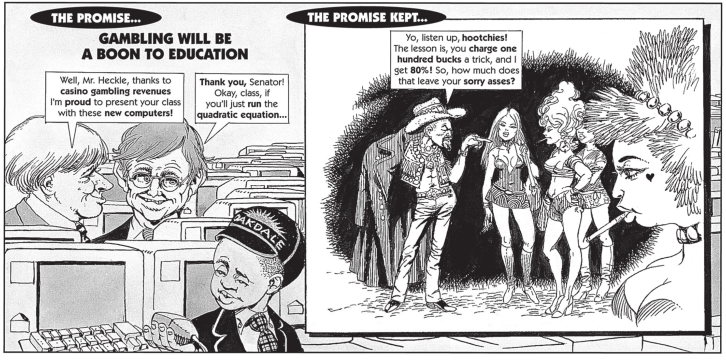
WRITER **STAN HART**
ARTIST **GEORGE WOODBRIDGE**

THE PROMISE...
GAMBLING WILL ATTRACT VISITORS
CASINO XPRESS
Casino Special
THE PROMISE KEPT...
Wow! That flight was crowded! Tourism must be booming!
What tourists? They're from the mob! They visit here once a month to skim off profits from the casinos!


THE PROMISE...
GAMBLING REVENUE WILL BE KEPT IN THE COMMUNITY
This Building Erected Thanks To The Generous Support Of:
Blackjack-In-The-Box
Tank Buffney's Sports Book
Hecky's Slots-O-Rama
THE PROMISE KEPT...
Hand it over, pal!
I'll take two vials!
I'll take the BMW Z3!
BMW DEALER


THE PROMISE...
GAMBLING WILL CREATE NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
THE PROMISE KEPT...
Another new jail?!? This is the third one this year!
Yeah, this one is just for the pick-pockets and hookers! The drug dealers and pimps are locked up at the new police precinct!
JAIL


THE PROMISE...
GAMBLING WILL ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES
OPENING SOON - NOW HIRING
DEALERS AND PIT BOSSES NEEDED!
THE PROMISE KEPT...
Lucky's BLOOD BANK
GRAND OPENING
PAWN SHOP WE BUY ANYTHING
I'm telling you, Bob, I don't think it's a good idea to sell your blood for cash!
I couldn't agree with you more! That's why I come here! They pay in chips!
BLOOD


THE PROMISE...
GAMBLING WILL BE A BOON TO EDUCATION
Well, Mr. Heckle, thanks to casino gambling revenues I'm proud to present your class with these new computers!
Thank you, Senator! Okay, class, if you'll just run the quadratic equation...
OAKDALE
THE PROMISE KEPT...
Yo, listen up, hootchies! The lesson is, you charge one hundred bucks a trick, and I get 80%! So, how much does that leave your sorry asses?

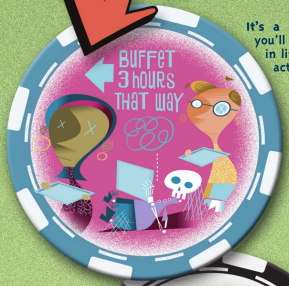
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #378, FEB 1999

THE ODDS MUST BE CRAZY DEPT.

Bad buffet food, expensive shows that really aren't that good, annoying and tacky tourists, oh, and the fact that you're going to lose your shirt at the one-armed bandits — these are all obvious things that will happen to you in Vegas. There are, however, other, less obvious occurrences that pretty much guarantee you'll have a crappy vacation! Here's...

Sure Bets In VEGAS

WRITER **SCOTT MAIKO**
ARTIST **DANIEL GUIDERA**



It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that you'll spend more time waiting in line for the buffet than you actually will dining.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that the first $75 you'll lose will have been on a shopping bag full of "How To Beat the Odds" books you buy and study two weeks before your trip that you're sure will give you an edge over the multi-billion dollar casinos engineered solely to separate you from your money.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that the $1.99 Filet Mignon special advertised on a plywood sidewalk easel does contain the meat of some sort of domesticated animal.

It's also a sure bet, however, that it's not a cow.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that the number of selections available at the buffet you're dining at is dwarfed only by the quantity of bacteria incubating in the trays of congealed food that's spent the last six hours under a heatlamp being poked and prodded by the 1,200 diners who preceded you.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN
MAD #429, MAY 2003

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that the bizarre, complicated ritual you employ for good luck has no bearing whatsoever on the cards you are dealt, the dice you roll or the slot machines you play.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that the bedspread in your room at Caesar's Palace contains more DNA than the petri dish backstage at a Maury Povich "You're My Baby's Father and I Can Prove It!" episode.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that you'll be unable to redeem more that one coupon from the dozens you clip from the free Vegas "fun book" you picked up at the airport.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that the chintzy commemorative cocktail glass filled with a quart of Kool-Aid and a thimbleful of rum that you blew 15 bucks on at the Excalibur will be the centerpiece of the "Your Choice — 25 Cents Each" table at your yard sale a year later.

And it's also a sure bet no one will buy it.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that from the time you order a drink from a cocktail waitress until she finally returns with it, your "complimentary" martini will have cost you upwards of 30 bucks in quarters.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that once you sober up, you'll think it wasn't such a hot idea to pay $35 for a cheap cotton t-shirt advertising the multi-billion dollar casino that just robbed you of $600.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that an assortment of co-workers, friends and relatives will give you $10 or more "to gamble for them." You'll lose it all, and they'll secretly think that whatever little money you did win was from the money they gave you.

It's a Sure Bet in Vegas... that every forgotten '70s star with any sort of dubious link to music has headlined, is headlining, or soon will headline a show where the "talent" takes a back seat to the special effects.

TALK OF THE TOWN DEPT.

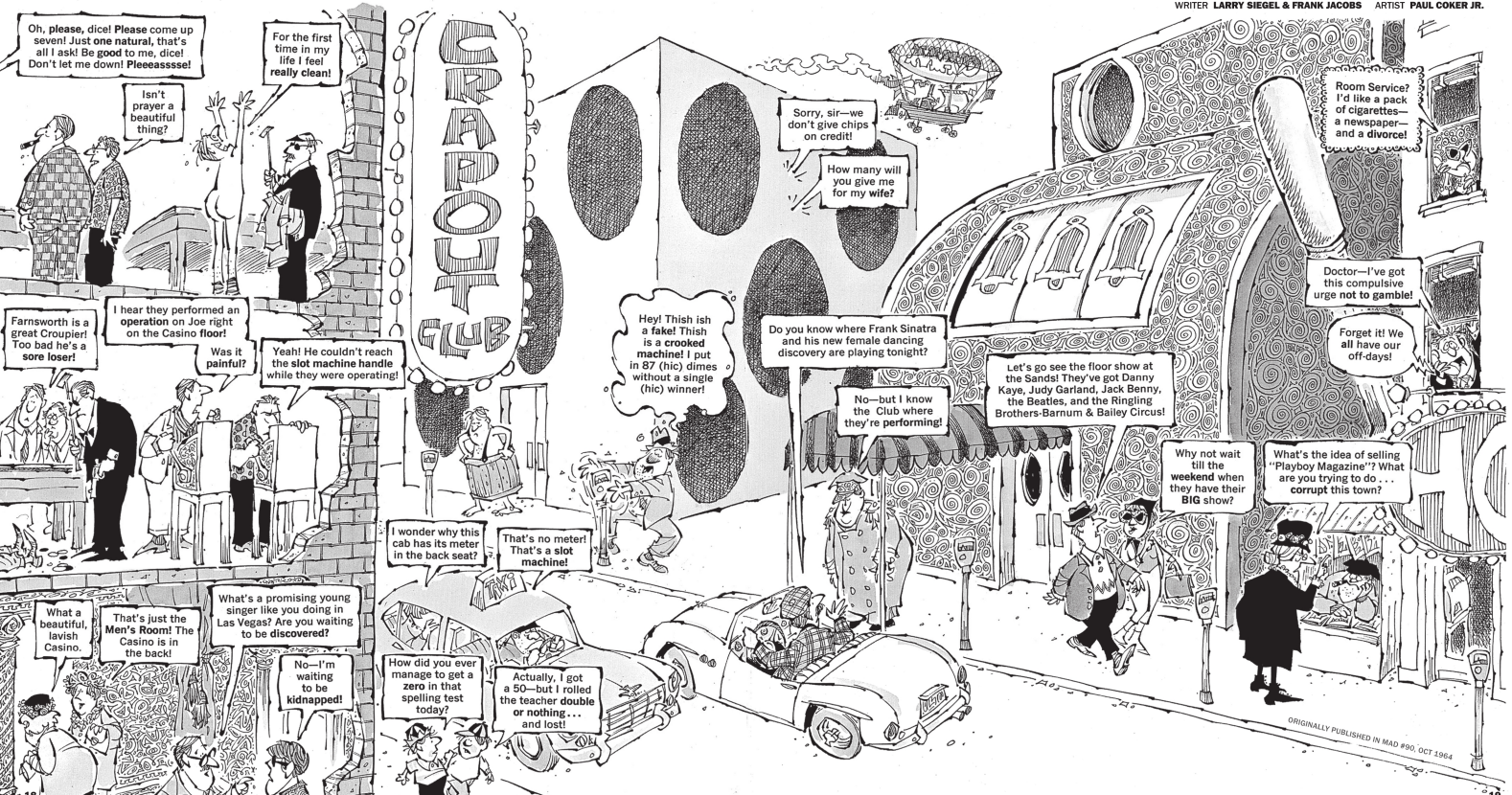
In this, its third installment, "The MAD Information Service" continues to inform Americans about America — by presenting

THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THE U.S.A.

THIS ISSUE—SPOTLIGHTING

LAS VEGAS Nevada

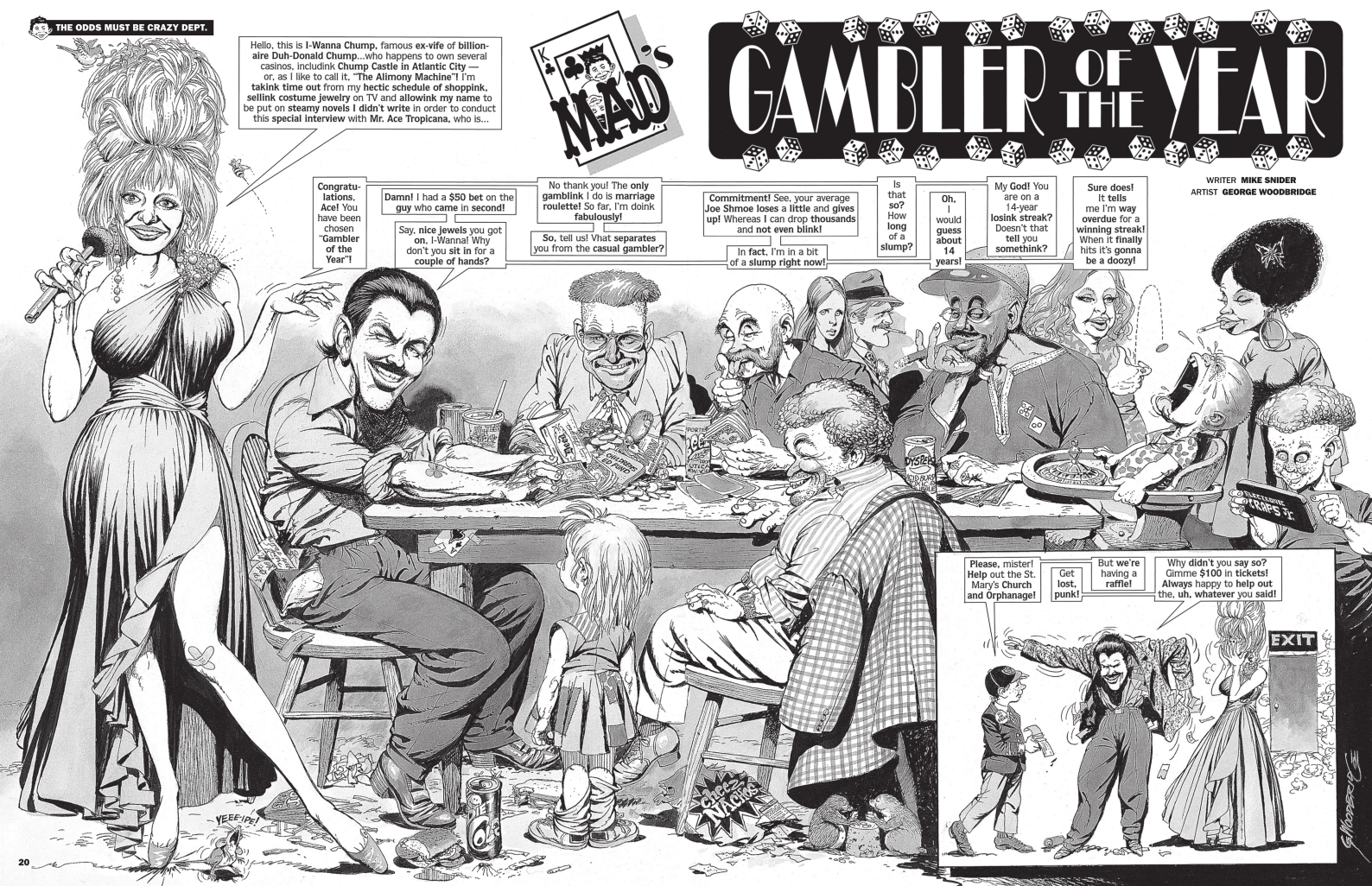
WRITER **LARRY SIEGEL & FRANK JACOBS** ARTIST **PAUL COKER JR.**

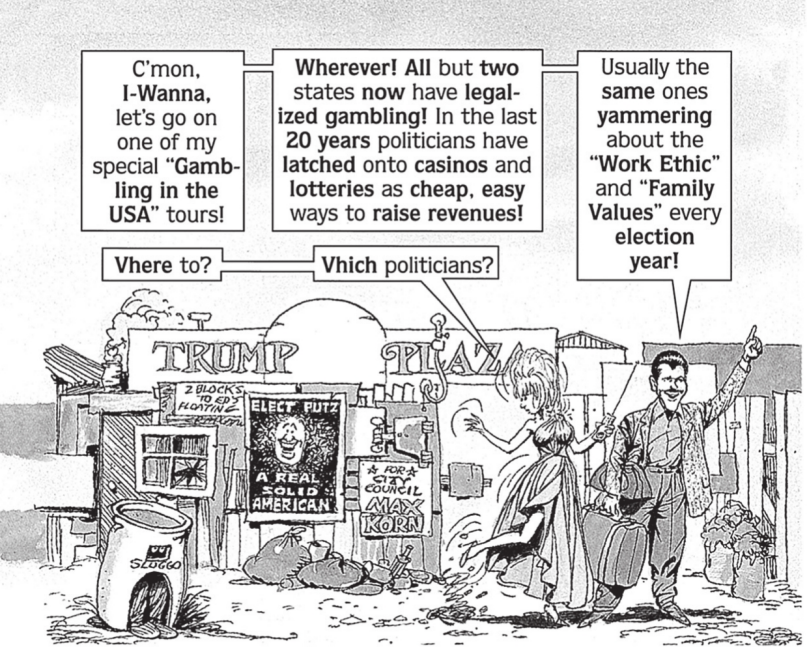

Oh, please, dice! Please come up seven! Just one natural, that's all I ask! Be good to me, dice! Don't let me down! Pleeeasssse!
Isn't prayer a beautiful thing?
For the first time in my life I feel really clean!
CRAPOUT CLUB
Farnsworth is a great Croupier! Too bad he's a sore loser!
I hear they performed an operation on Joe right on the Casino floor!
Was it painful?
Yeah! He couldn't reach the slot machine handle while they were operating!
What a beautiful, lavish Casino.
That's just the Men's Room! The Casino is in the back!
What's a promising young singer like you doing in Las Vegas? Are you waiting to be discovered?
No—I'm waiting to be kidnapped!
I wonder why this cab has its meter in the back seat?
That's no meter! That's a slot machine!
How did you ever manage to get a zero in that spelling test today?
Actually, I got a 50—but I rolled the teacher double or nothing... and lost!
Hey! Thish ish a fake! Thish is a crooked machine! I put in 87 (hic) dimes without a single (hic) winner!
Sorry, sir—we don't give chips on credit!
How many will you give me for my wife?
Do you know where Frank Sinatra and his new female dancing discovery are playing tonight?
No—but I know the Club where they're performing!
Let's go see the floor show at the Sands! They've got Danny Kaye, Judy Garland, Jack Benny, the Beatles, and the Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey Circus!
Why not wait till the weekend when they have their BIG show?
What's the idea of selling "Playboy Magazine"? What are you trying to do . . . corrupt this town?
Room Service? I'd like a pack of cigarettes— a newspaper— and a divorce!
Doctor—I've got this compulsive urge not to gamble!
Forget it! We all have our off-days!

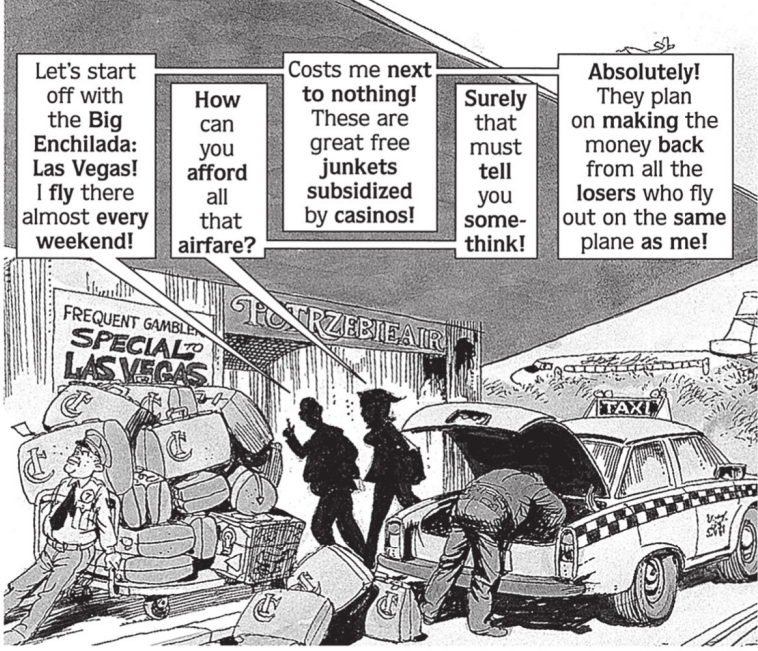
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #90, OCT 1964

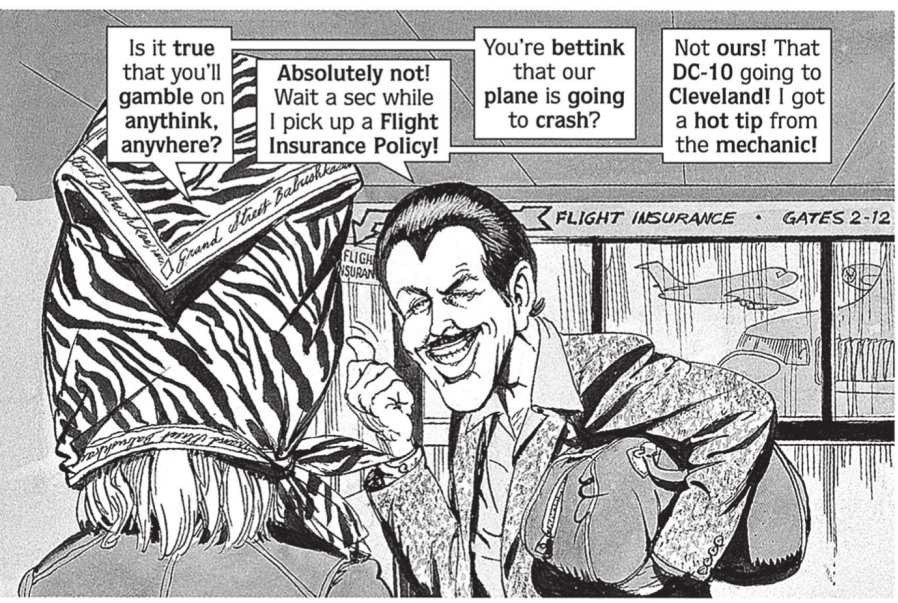
MAD's GAMBLER OF THE YEAR

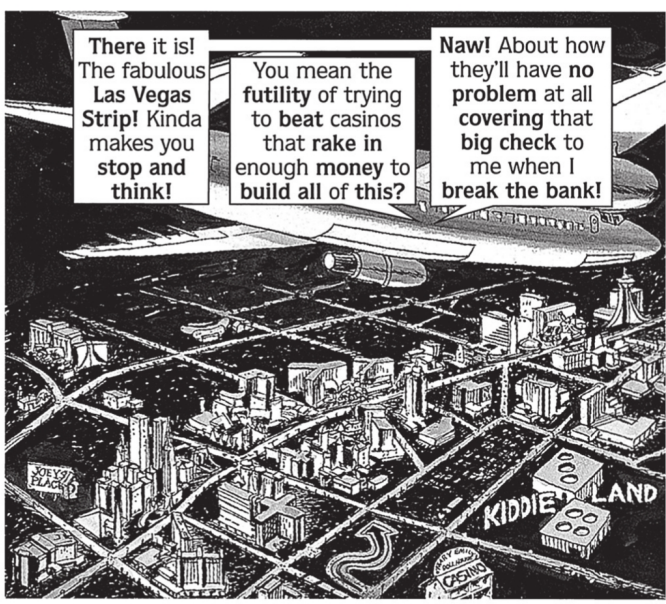
WRITER **MIKE SNIDER**
ARTIST **GEORGE WOODBRIDGE**

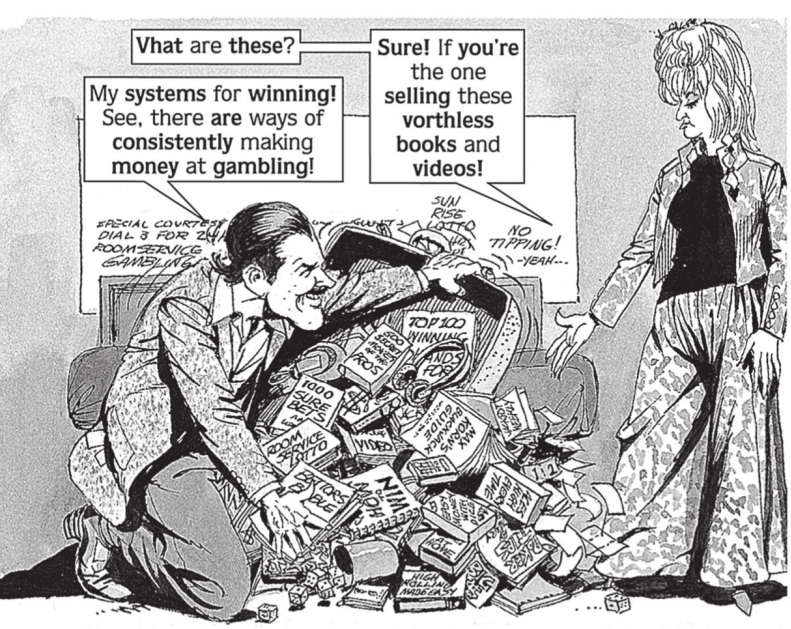

Hello, this is **I-Wanna Chump**, famous **ex-vife** of **billion-aire Duh-Donald Chump**...who happens to own several casinos, includink **Chump Castle in Atlantic City** — or, as I like to call it, **"The Alimony Machine"**! I'm **takink time out** from my **hectic schedule of shoppink, sellink costume jewelry** on TV and **allowink my name** to be put on **steamy novels I didn't write** in order to conduct this **special interview** with **Mr. Ace Tropicana**, who is...
Congratu-lations, Ace! You have been chosen **"Gambler of the Year"!**
Damn! I had a **$50 bet** on the **guy** who **came** in **second!**
Say, **nice jewels** you got **on**, I-Wanna! Why don't you **sit in** for a **couple of hands?**
No thank you! The **only gamblink** I do is **marriage roulette!** So far, I'm doink **fabulously!**
So, tell us! Vhat **separates** you from the **casual gambler?**
Commitment! See, your average **Joe Shmoe loses a little** and **gives up!** Whereas **I** can drop **thousands** and **not even blink!**
In **fact,** I'm in a bit of a **slump right now!**
Is that **so?** How **long** of a **slump?**
Oh, I would **guess about 14 years!**
My **God!** You are on a 14-year **losink streak?** Doesn't that **tell** you **somethink?**
Sure does! It **tells** me I'm **way overdue** for a **winning streak!** When it **finally** hits it's **gonna be a doozy!**
Please, mister! **Help** out the St. Mary's **Church and Orphanage!**
Get lost, punk!
But **we're** having a **raffle!**
Why **didn't** you **say so?** Gimme **$100** in **tickets! Always** happy to **help out** the, **uh, whatever** you **said!**
EXIT
YEEE-IPE!
Cheez NACHOS

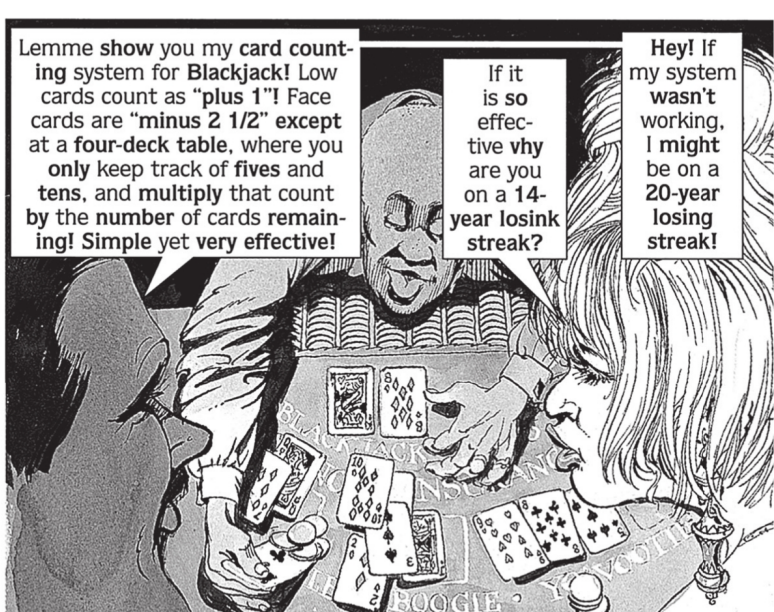

C'mon, **I-Wanna,** let's go on one of my special **"Gambling in the USA"** tours!
Wherever! All but **two** states **now** have **legalized gambling!** In the last **20 years** politicians have **latched** onto **casinos** and **lotteries** as **cheap, easy** ways to **raise revenues!**
Usually the **same** ones **yammering** about the **"Work Ethic"** and **"Family Values"** every **election year!**
Vhere to?
Vhich politicians?
TRUMP PLAZA
2 BLOCKS TO ED'S HOAGIE
ELECT PUTZ
A REAL SOLID AMERICAN
FOR CITY COUNCIL
MAX KORN
SLUGGO

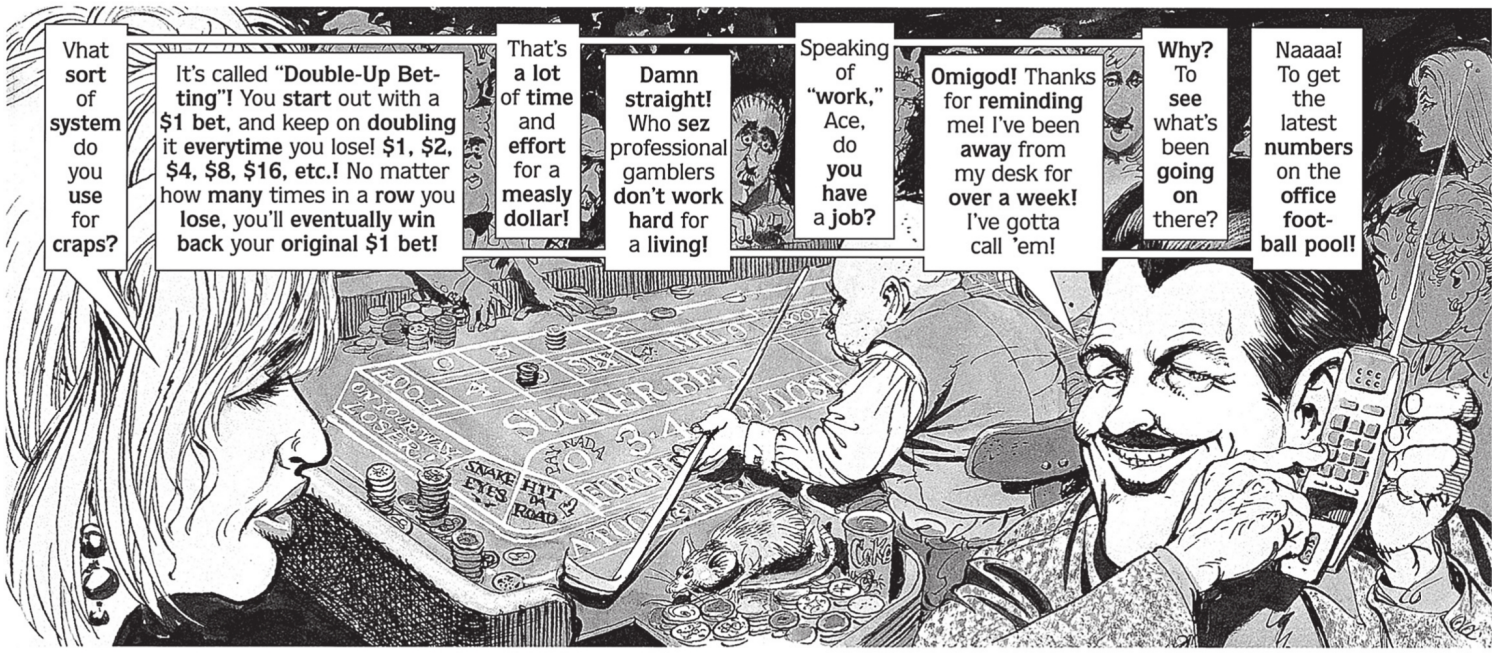

Let's start off with the **Big Enchilada: Las Vegas!** I **fly** there almost **every weekend!**
How can you **afford** all that **airfare?**
Costs me **next to nothing!** These are great free **junkets subsidized** by **casinos!**
Surely that must **tell** you **somethink!**
Absolutely! They plan on **making** the money **back** from all the **losers** who fly out on the **same** plane **as me!**
FREQUENT GAMBLER SPECIAL TO LAS VEGAS
TAXI


Is it **true** that you'll **gamble** on **anythink, anyvhere?**
Absolutely not! Wait a sec while I pick up a **Flight Insurance Policy!**
You're **bettink** that our **plane** is **going** to **crash?**
Not **ours!** That **DC-10** going to **Cleveland!** I got a **hot tip** from the **mechanic!**
FLIGHT INSURANCE • GATES 2-12

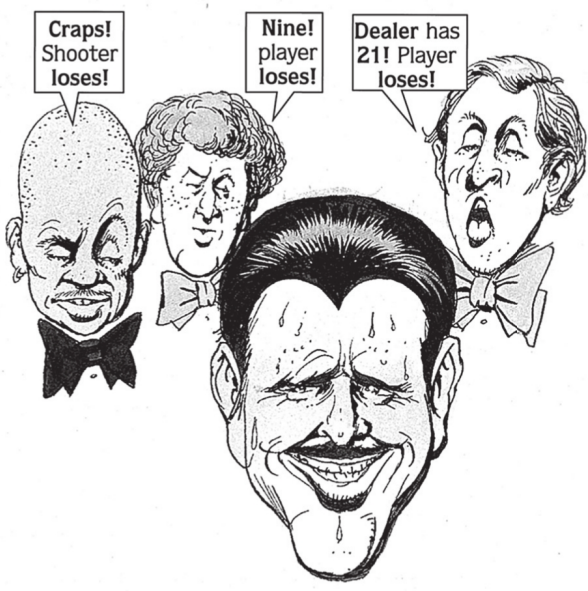

There it is! The fabulous **Las Vegas Strip!** Kinda makes you **stop and think!**
You mean the **futility** of trying to **beat** casinos that **rake in** enough **money** to **build all** of **this?**
Naw! About how they'll have **no problem** at all **covering** that **big check** to me when I **break the bank!**
KIDDIELAND

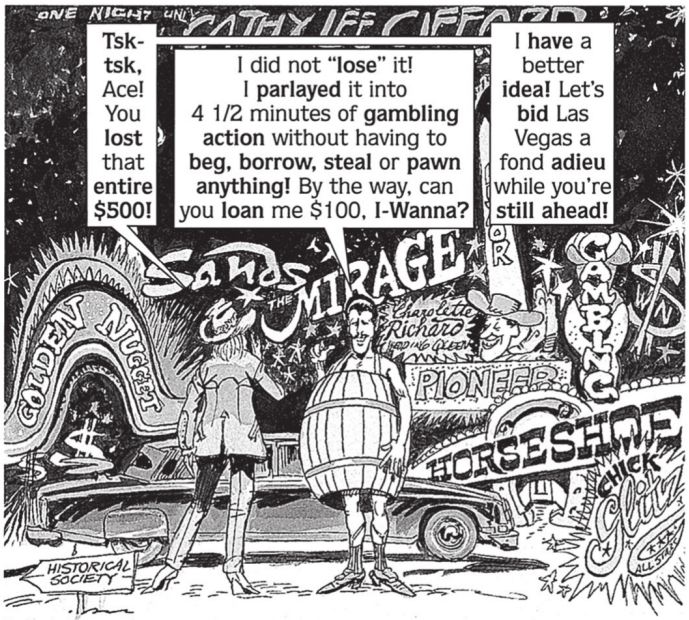

Vhat are **these?**
My **systems** for **winning!** See, there **are** ways of **consistently** making **money** at **gambling!**
Sure! If **you're** the one **selling** these **vorthless books** and **videos!**
SPECIAL COURTESY DIAL 3 FOR ROOM SERVICE GAMBLING
SUN RISE LOTTO
NO TIPPING! -YEAH...
TOP 100 WINNING
1000 SURE BEAT SYSTEMS
ROOM SERVICE TOYOTA
VIDEO
HIGH ROLLING AWARDS

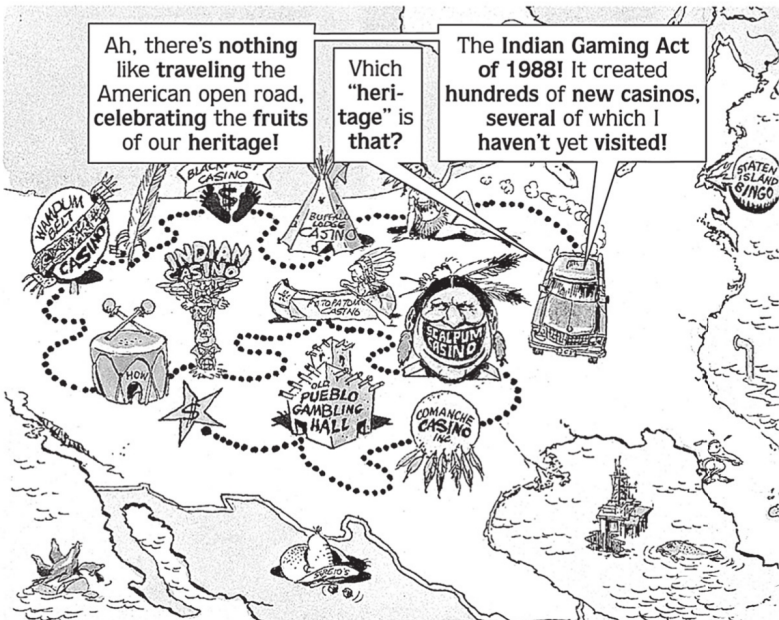

Lemme **show** you my **card counting** system for **Blackjack!** Low cards count as **"plus 1"!** Face cards are **"minus 2 1/2" except** at a **four-deck table,** where you **only** keep track of **fives** and **tens,** and **multiply** that count **by** the **number** of cards **remaining! Simple** yet **very effective!**
If it **is so** effective **vhy** are you on a **14-year losink streak?**
Hey! If my system **wasn't** working, I **might** be on a **20-year losing streak!**
BLACK JACK
BOOGIE

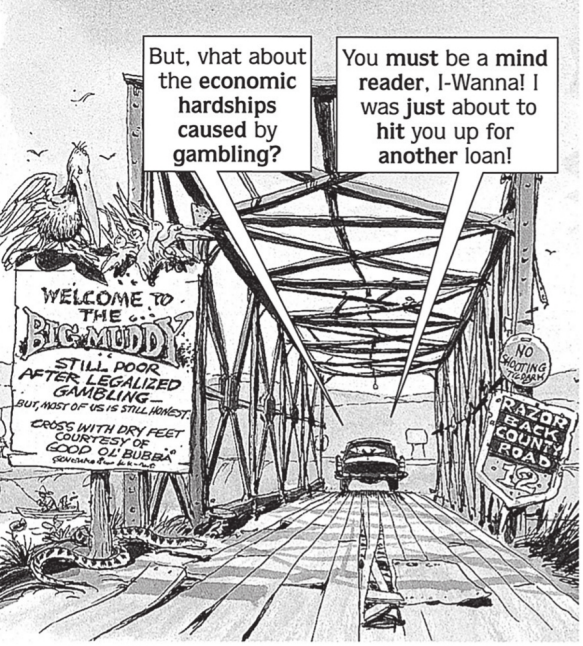

What sort of system do you use for craps?
It's called "Double-Up Betting"! You start out with a $1 bet, and keep on doubling it everytime you lose! $1, $2, $4, $8, $16, etc.! No matter how many times in a row you lose, you'll eventually win back your original $1 bet!
That's a lot of time and effort for a measly dollar!
Damn straight! Who sez professional gamblers don't work hard for a living!
Speaking of "work," Ace, do you have a job?
Omigod! Thanks for reminding me! I've been away from my desk for over a week! I've gotta call 'em!
Why? To see what's been going on there?
Naaaa! To get the latest numbers on the office football pool!
SUCKER BET
SNAKE EYES
HIT DA ROAD

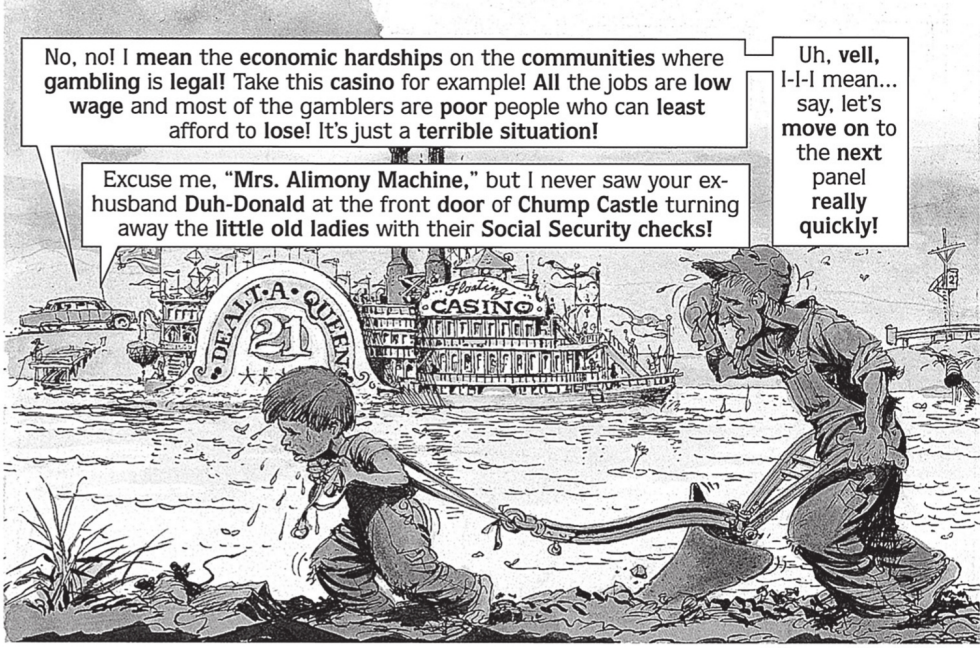
Holy cow! A $500 Jackpot! How much did you have to put in to vin that?
$600!
Oh, that is really too bad!
Whaddya mean "too bad"? I was $600 down, and now I'm only $100 down! That means I'm ahead!
What kind of logic is that?
Steve Forbes' Flat Tax Plan logic!
777
DING
BZZZZONK
EEEAAOOW

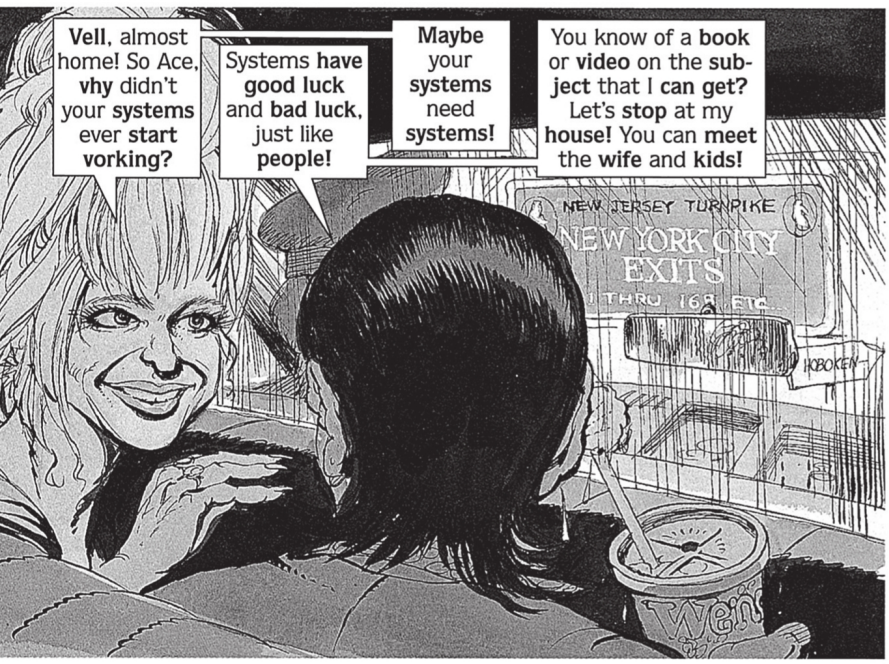

Craps! Shooter loses!
Nine! player loses!
Dealer has 21! Player loses!

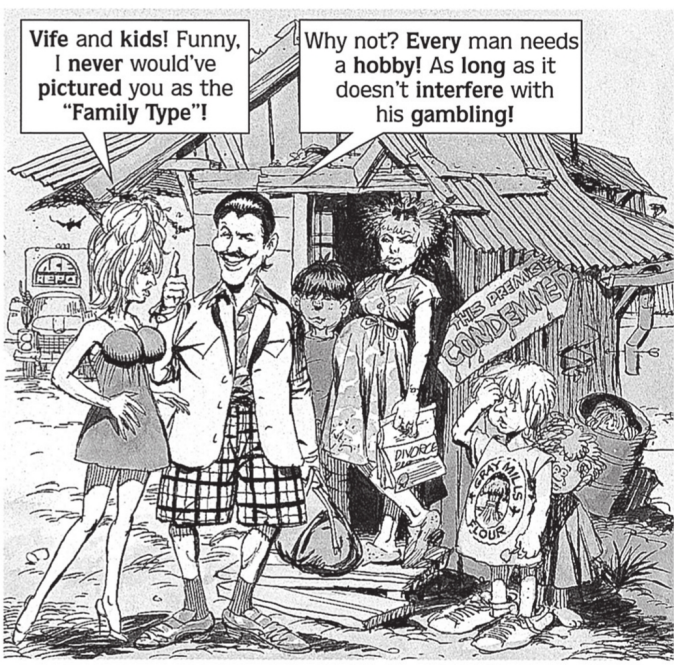

ONE NIGHT ONLY
Tsk-tsk, Ace! You lost that entire $500!
I did not "lose" it! I parlayed it into 4 1/2 minutes of gambling action without having to beg, borrow, steal or pawn anything! By the way, can you loan me $100, I-Wanna?
I have a better idea! Let's bid Las Vegas a fond adieu while you're still ahead!
Sands
MIRAGE
Charlotte Richard
GOLDEN NUGGET
PIONEER
HORSESHOE
GAMBLING
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

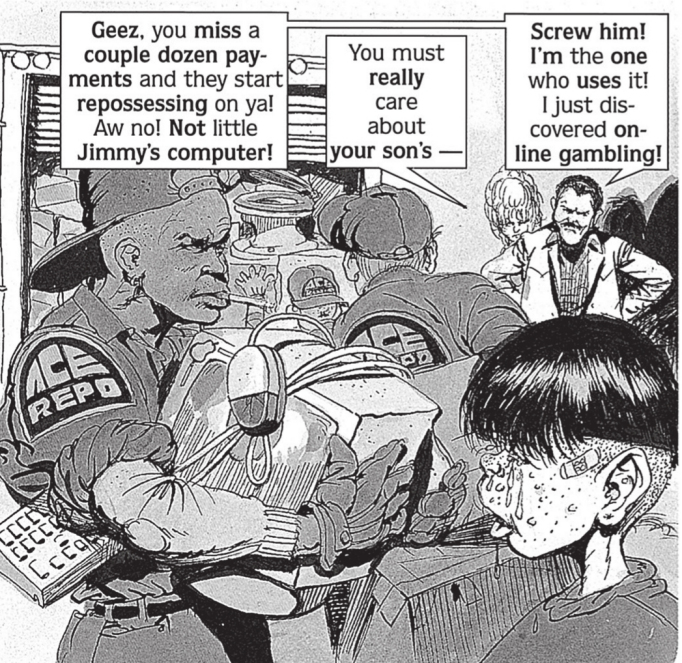

Ah, there's nothing like traveling the American open road, celebrating the fruits of our heritage!
Vhich "heritage" is that?
The Indian Gaming Act of 1988! It created hundreds of new casinos, several of which I haven't yet visited!
WAMPUM BELT CASINO
BLACK CASINO
INDIAN CASINO
BUFFALO LODGE CASINO
TOMAHAWK CASINO
SEALPUM CASINO
TOM TOM
OLD PUEBLO GAMBLING HALL
COMANCHE CASINO
STATEN ISLAND BINGO

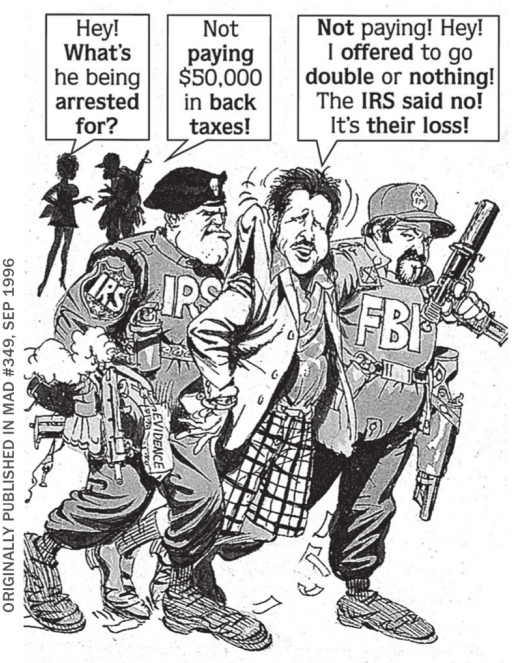

But, what about the economic hardships caused by gambling?
You must be a mind reader, I-Wanna! I was just about to hit you up for another loan!
WELCOME TO THE BIG MUDDY
STILL POOR AFTER LEGALIZED GAMBLING—
BUT, MOST OF US IS STILL HONEST!
CROSS WITH DRY FEET COURTESY OF GOOD OL' BUBBA
NO BOATING ON DAM
RAZOR BACK COUNTY ROAD 12

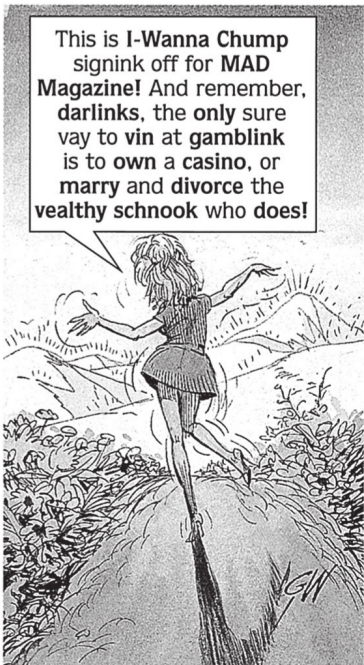

No, no! I mean the economic hardships on the communities where gambling is legal! Take this casino for example! All the jobs are low wage and most of the gamblers are poor people who can least afford to lose! It's just a terrible situation!
Uh, vell, I-I-I mean... say, let's move on to the next panel really quickly!
Excuse me, "Mrs. Alimony Machine," but I never saw your ex-husband Duh-Donald at the front door of Chump Castle turning away the little old ladies with their Social Security checks!
DEALT·A·QUEEN
21
Floating CASINO


Vell, almost home! So Ace, vhy didn't your systems ever start vorking?
Systems have good luck and bad luck, just like people!
Maybe your systems need systems!
You know of a book or video on the subject that I can get? Let's stop at my house! You can meet the wife and kids!
NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE
NEW YORK CITY EXITS
HOBOKEN


Vife and kids! Funny, I never would've pictured you as the "Family Type"!
Why not? Every man needs a hobby! As long as it doesn't interfere with his gambling!
HIS PREMISES CONDEMNED
DIVORCE
GRAY MILLS FLOUR


Geez, you miss a couple dozen payments and they start repossessing on ya! Aw no! Not little Jimmy's computer!
You must really care about your son's —
Screw him! I'm the one who uses it! I just discovered online gambling!
ACE REPO


Hey! What's he being arrested for?
Not paying $50,000 in back taxes!
Not paying! Hey! I offered to go double or nothing! The IRS said no! It's their loss!
IRS
IRS
FBI
EVIDENCE


This is I-Wanna Chump signink off for MAD Magazine! And remember, darlinks, the only sure vay to vin at gamblink is to own a casino, or marry and divorce the vealthy schnook who does!

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #349, SEP 1996

IN A LAS VEGAS HOTEL LOBBY

WRITER **DON "DUCK" EDWING** ARTIST **GEORGE WOODBRIDGE**

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #93, MAR 1965

WRITER & ARTIST **PETER KUPER**

A PORTION CLINIC DEPT.

MAD'S GUIDE TO PROPER ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFET ETIQUETTE

There are few things in life that Americans enjoy more than an all-you-can-eat buffet. There's just something about a morbidly obese population lining up to pile their plates with a steam-heated culinary hodgepodge of lasagna, barbequed buffalo wings, French toast and shrimp cocktail. (Well, maybe shrimp cocktail, if you're one of the first two in line.) But before you go hog wild at one of these eating orgies, you should know that there are certain rules that must be obeyed or chaos could ensue, resulting in the loss of life or worse—that tray of pulled pork in honey sauce you waited 10 minutes in line for!

WRITER **DICK DEBARTOLO** ARTIST **TOM BUNK**

RESTROOMS →

If you're about to sneeze or cough, cover your mouth.

Use a piece of bread, a pancake or a slice of ham. When putting it back on the buffet table, keep things sanitary by placing it at the back.

Don't cut the line!

Merely start a new line moving in the opposite direction.

Popular buffet items like shrimp are known to run out quickly.

So always grab as many as you can before the greedy, thoughtless hoarders get to them.

Place your used dishes and cutlery on one of the huge trays provided.

Or, better yet, snag an empty one and you'll have yourself a mega-dish to pile food on all evening!

Do not "double dip."

If you take a carrot, dip it in sauce and take a bite, do not dip it in the sauce again! Instead, dip your finger in the sauce and put it on the carrot.

Always use tongs.

They're perfect for whacking a hand that's about to take the last few chicken wings or something else that's about to run out.

Don't hold up the line by carefully selecting from the meat and fish choices.

Take them *all* and *decide* what you want to eat when you're back at your table.

Use your assigned seating place card.

Take it and put it on the dessert table. Then you can sit there and enjoy all the desserts without having to walk back and forth to your *actual* table.

Don't load up your plate so high that food falls off.

Take several plates and load them all *medium* high.

It is very improper to use the ladle from one type of salad dressing to take a different type of salad dressing.

Always lick it clean before using the same ladle for something different.

If you drop a piece of food on the floor, don't pick it up.

It's the staff's job to pick it up and put it back in the serving tray.

Remember—there are no doggie bags at buffets!

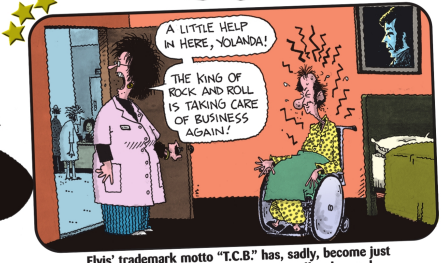
However, lining your pockets with aluminum foil for easy filling is technically *not* a doggie bag.

ORIGINAL PUBLISHED MAD #526, APR 2013

TOM BUNK

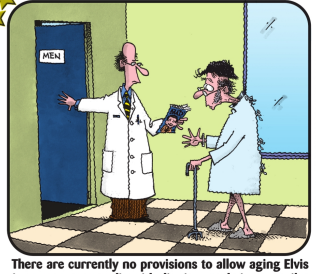
In the great circle of life, as one thing dies, another is born to take its place. And so it was with the great rock and roller Elvis Presley. Almost immediately after his death, a bevy of Elvis impersonators were born to fill our primal need to watch a sweaty, gyrating guy in a sequined jumpsuit. Sadly, many of these impersonators are now a bit past their prime and are suffering the slings and arrows that frequently accompany old age. Many of these hardworking performers have simply been forgotten, cast off to the dustbin of showbiz. But you'll remember, when MAD exposes...

JOHN CALDWELL'S HEARTBREAKING PROBLEMS OF AGING ELVIS IMPERSONATORS



Elvis' trademark motto "T.C.B." has, sadly, become just another everyday nursing home staff code word

Few, if any, health care plans provide for the nearly bi-monthly hip replacements they require



There are currently no provisions to allow aging Elvis impersonators to die with dignity, on their own toilet

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #462, FEB 2006

EXCUSE ME! YOU HAVEN'T SUNG ANYTHING YET!
?
SERVICE ENTRANCE
GLENVILLE WOMEN'S CLUB PRESENTS NOON TODAY LYLE POTTS AND HIS TRIBUTE TO THE KING

Frequent memory lapses cause him more and more to forget why he "left the building"

The classic Elvis lip curl now causes previously unforeseen problems

ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT? ARE YOUR PORK CHOPS TOO TIGHT? COULD YOU SEE WHAT'S ON CHANNEL NINE? TELL ME DEAR, WHEN'S THE BUS SHOW UP HERE... ZZZBRHH...WHUT...ZZZZ....

A society conditioned to choose between "Skinny Elvis" and "Fat Elvis" is simply unprepared to add "Dementia-Addled Elvis" to the mix

There is woefully inadequate funding to provide grilled peanut butter, banana and bacon sandwiches in the Meals on Wheels program

The overwhelming depression that sometimes accompanies Male Pattern Sideburn Baldness

The lines of the classic Elvis jumpsuit simply cannot stand up to the rigors of a fully-loaded, heavy-duty Depends

YOU'RE a WINNER and a LOSER

WRITER **DESMOND DEVLIN**
ARTIST **TOM BUNK**

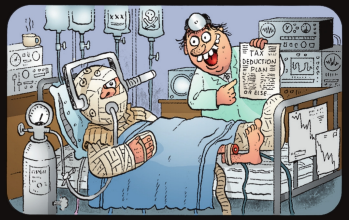
It seems that in life you're either a winner or a loser. Such as, the Road Runner is a winner, whereas daytime soap opera actress Susan Lucci is a loser! But hey, Jerky, it ain't always so cut and dry! We betcha didn't know there are times when you can experience both the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat! So, here are some examples to prove our point when...

When your school board decides to counteract plummeting grades by "dumbing down" the standards...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you finally outbid everyone in the auction hall for the glazed ceramic bust of Jim Nabors...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

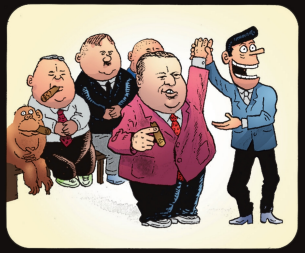


When you get to take the full medical deduction on your income taxes...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you win first place in a Rush Limbaugh look-alike contest...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

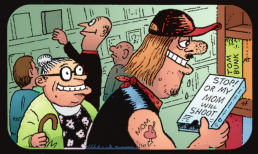


When the callouses on your forehead have built up to the point that crushing beer cans doesn't even sting anymore...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you're taken right on time for your appointment with your proctologist...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!



When you grab the very last copy of *Stop! Or My Mom Will Shoot* in the video store...

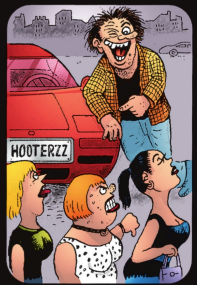
YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When backers finally raise the money to produce your sensitive, dramatic screenplay by signing Rosie O'Donnell...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you find out exactly what the recipe is for that Chinese dish you love so much...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

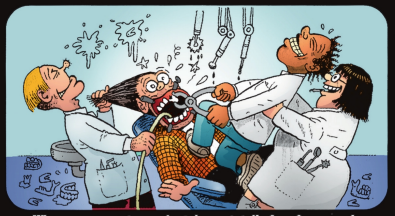


When the guy who's monopolized the "HOOTERZZ" vanity plates you've wanted for so long finally dies...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you get home in time to catch *Saturday Night Live*...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!



When you can get your dental care totally free from nearby student trainees...

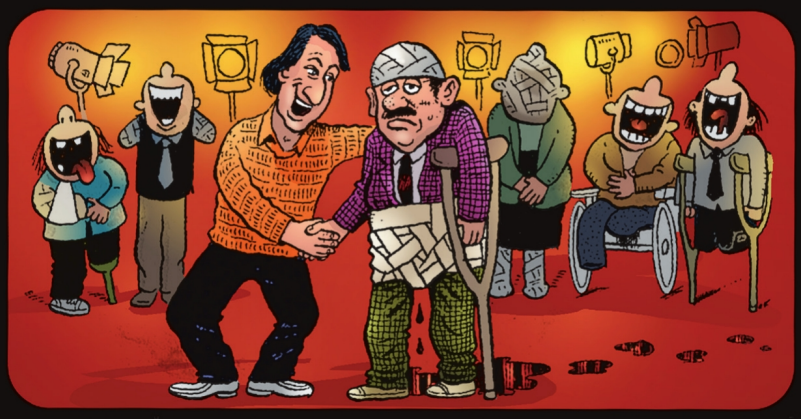
YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you smoke enough packs to redeem 35,000 of your coupons for ski equipment...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you get your entire prison sentence wiped out just by trying one experimental serum...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!



When you win 3rd place on *America's Funniest Home Videos* for your incredible *"Lawn Mower Vasectomy"* clip...

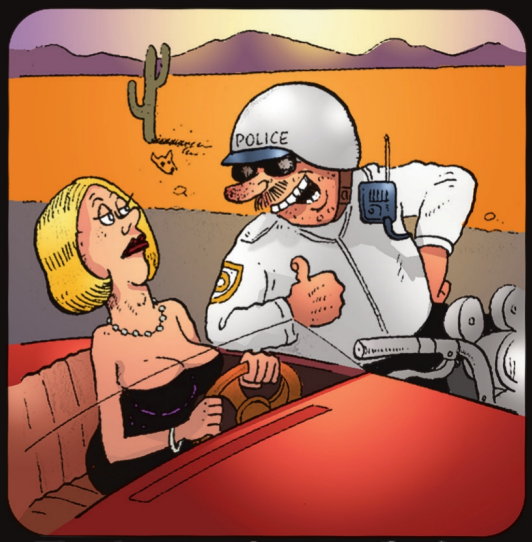
YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER

When your lover says that of the 250 sex partners they've had, you're the very best...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you pay off all your outstanding debts thanks to a loan from gentlemen named Louie Nickels and Icepick...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!



When the motorcycle cop says there's no reason why a pretty young thing traveling all alone like you should have to pay a speeding ticket, when the two of you can work something out...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When William Shatner agrees to sing the song you've written...

YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When you succeed in spending just 45 cents on soap, shampoo and deodorant in a whole year...

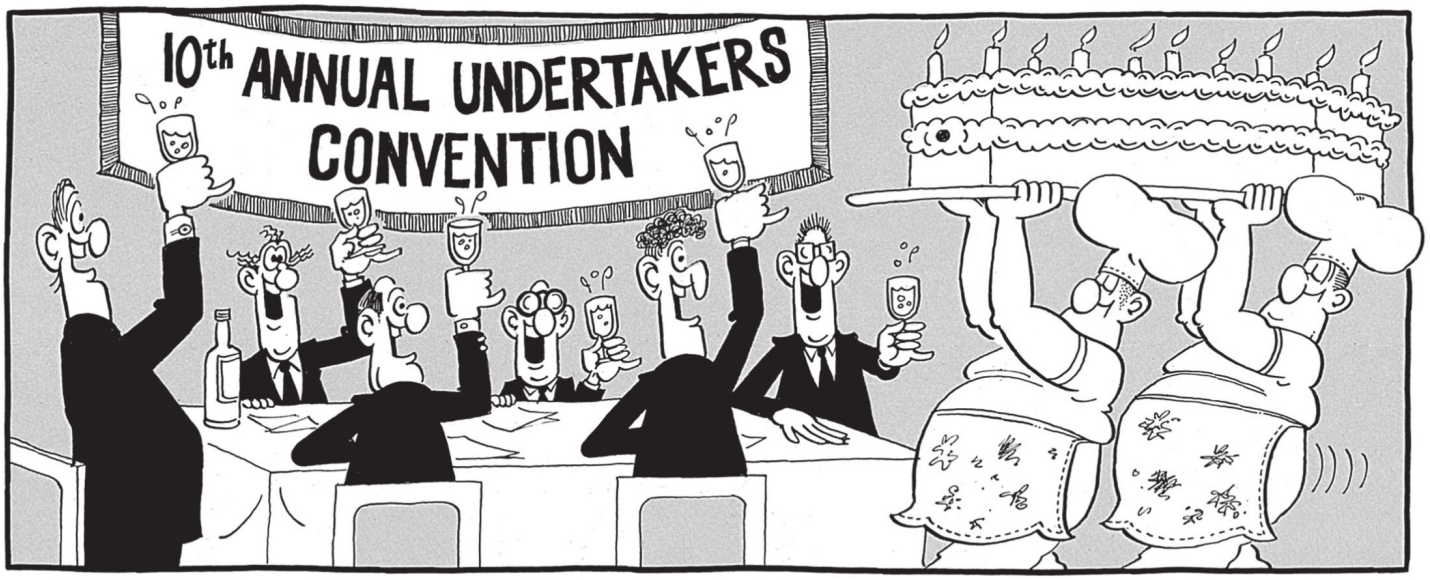
YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

When your goiter gets you into the Guinness Book of World Records...

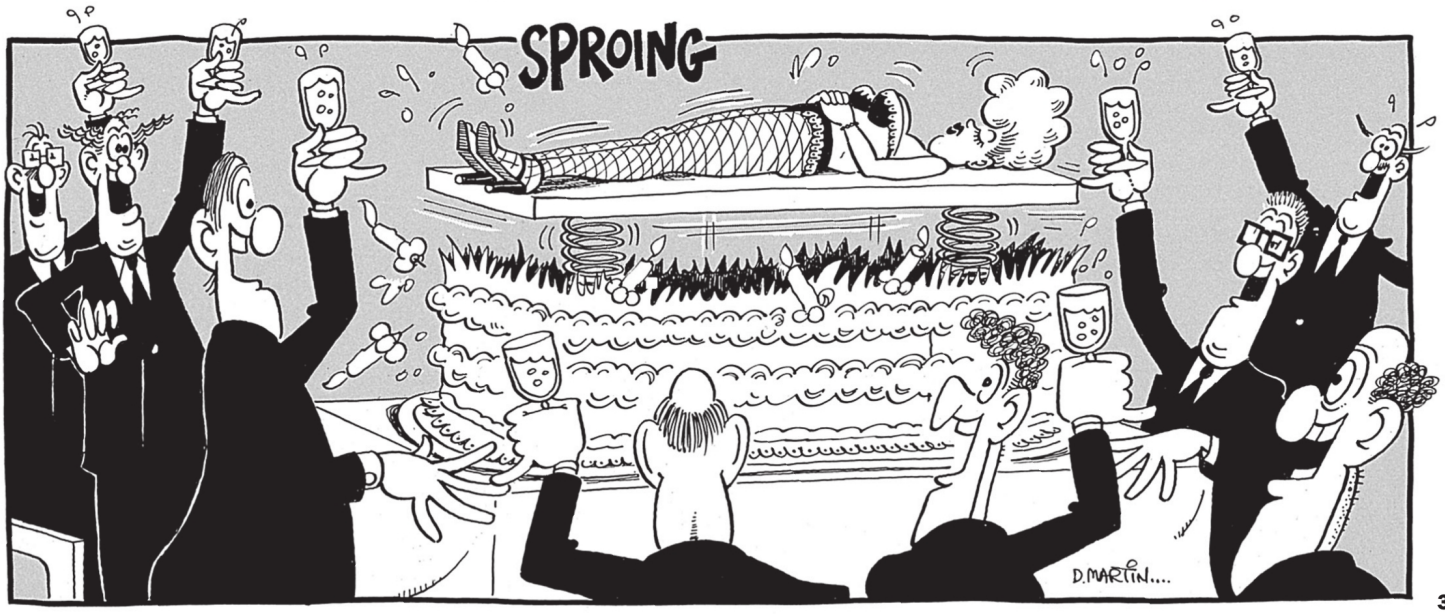
YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #338, AUG 1995

EARLY ONE EVENING IN ATLANTIC CITY



WRITER & ARTIST **DON MARTIN**



ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #196, JAN 1978

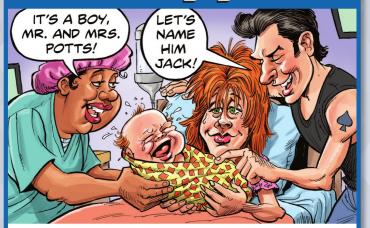
TRUE STATS, TRUE 'DAT DEPT.

Everyone thinks they've got a system for living, but it's really just a numbers game. Care to make it interesting? Here are life's big stages, with correlating games of risk...

LIFE
A Game of Chance!

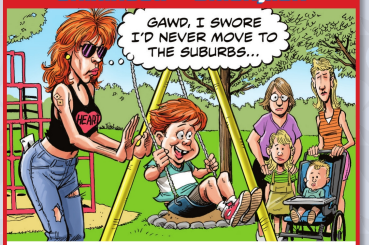
WRITER **TAMMY GOLDEN** ARTIST **TOM RICHMOND**

Birth = Playing Slots



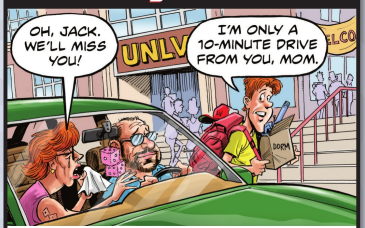
When a slot machine and a lever love each other very much... jackpot! You're born! Of course, you had nothing to do with it—you're a product of chance. Birth rates are down 20%, but you beat the odds!

Childhood = Blackjack



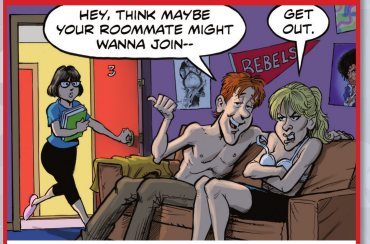
Your parents made a smart bet, moving to a good school district to up your odds of success. But there's a 43% chance you'll never earn as much as your parents did.

College = Poker



Your parents' bet paid off! Thanks to decent grades, you're one of the 61% of high school grads now college-bound! But you're not wealthy or a genius, so you'll be among the 88% of students who go to an in-state college.

Dating = Strip Poker



Play the mating game! About 30% of U.S. adults are on dating apps. It's competitive, but there's action to be found if you stay in the game. Just don't try to parlay—you'll lose it all.

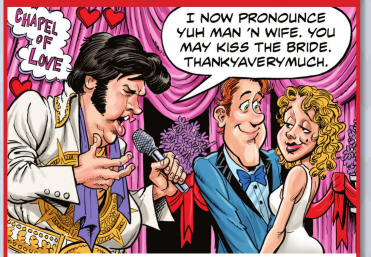
Career = Betting on the Ponies

You got a job! It's a crowded race, but HR hires people based on 70% confidence that they've got the right guy.

Being Fired = Baccarat

You tried to predict any risk scenario, but there was a 46% chance it just wouldn't work out. Better luck next time.

Marriage = Coin Flip

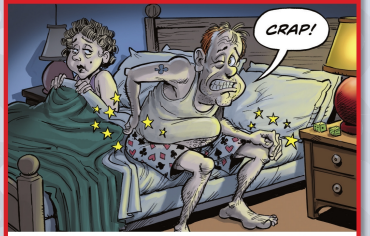


Congratulations, you did it! You sprang for the ♦! Just know there's only a 50/50 chance the marriage will last.

Starting a Family = Playing the Stock Market

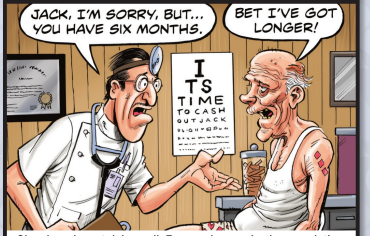
Now that you're hitched, there's an 80% chance you'll create your own diversified portfolio! There'll be some highs, lows, and crashes, but it will pay off dividends.

Aging = Craps



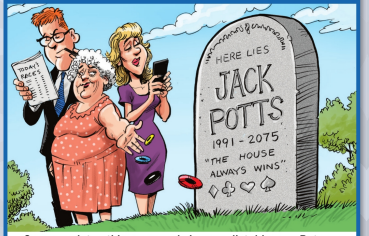
You've been rolling the dice with your health for too long. Now your body seems to be going bust. But maybe genetics is on your side! Or not. You wanna risk it by living like you're still in your 20s?

Decline = Death Pool



Oh pal, you're not doing well. Everyone's guessing how much time you've got left. Even your doctor is betting against you. But 75.8 years is the average lifespan, so you've got time...right??

Death = Russian Roulette



Sooner or later, this game ends in a predictable way. But way to play, fella! You went all in. You went for broke! There are no rebuys. This is a freeze-out tournament.

THE TRAGICALLY CHIP DEPT.

The problem with there being 500 channels on cable is that the programmers have to find some kind of crap to fill them. The latest batch of crap to fill them is poker. *Celebrity Poker*, the *World Poker Tour*, the *World Series of Poker* and *Survivor: Palms Casino* are all attempts by different channels to cash in on this fad (well, OK that last one doesn't really exist...it's only in pre-production). But how has this really changed everyday life? Just go all in with...

JOHN CALDWELL'S

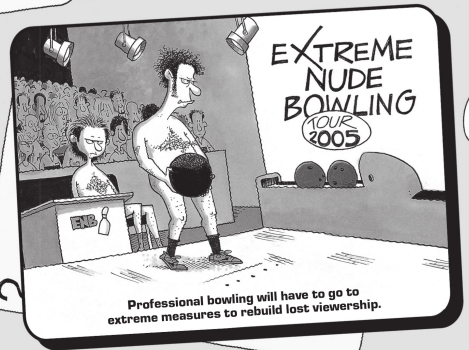
THANKS TO THE POPULARITY OF POKER...

Office productivity will grind to a crawl due to online fantasy celebrity poker leagues.

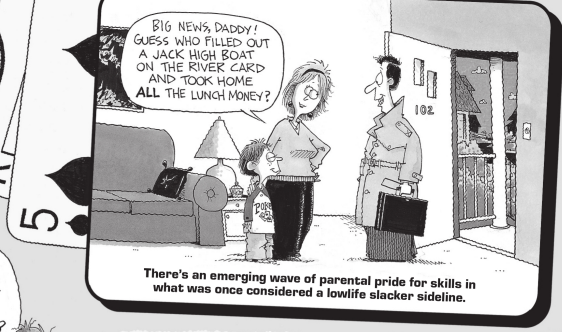
Some guy who hasn't woken up before noon since 1975 may soon be gracing your box of Wheaties.

There'll be a dramatic increase in the percentage of bleary-eyed Sunday churchgoers mistakenly going "all in" on the collection basket.

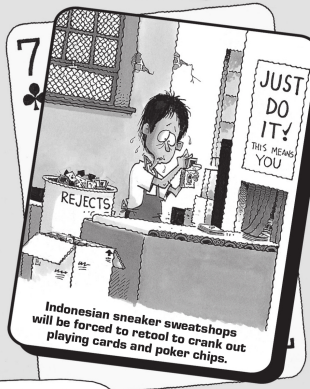
Every zit-faced numbers nerd who checks into a Vegas hotel will sport an ill-fitting "cool" nickname.



Professional bowling will have to go to extreme measures to rebuild lost viewership.



There's an emerging wave of parental pride for skills in what was once considered a lowlife slacker sideline.



Indonesian sneaker sweatshops will be forced to retool to crank out playing cards and poker chips.

Kids can profit greatly from bonding with aging relatives.

WRITER & ARTIST
JOHN CALDWELL

JOHN CALDWELL'S

THANKS TO THE POPULARITY OF POKER...

We'll soon usher in the era of "Poker Dads."

There's finally a practical use for that stupid deck of "Iraq's Most Wanted" playing cards.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #452, APR 2005

BARRY T. FLURVIN,
Hot Falls, ID

Barely knows the basic rules and strategies of the game. Instead, counts heavily on his uncanny resemblance to the King of Clubs to intimidate opponents.

ARMAND "BLIND HUGO" PHOSBURY
Garmentbag, IN

Rapidly pissing away his large cataract malpractice award money with his penchant for going all in with nothing more than a six and deuce, off suit.

PLAYERS YOU'LL NEVER SEE IN THE FINALS OF THE WORLD SERIES OF POKER

HERSCHEL WALSTEAD
Mustanottagotta, LA

Herschel's A.D.D. combined with superior origami skills frequently results in winning hole cards being turned into a grazing wildebeest.

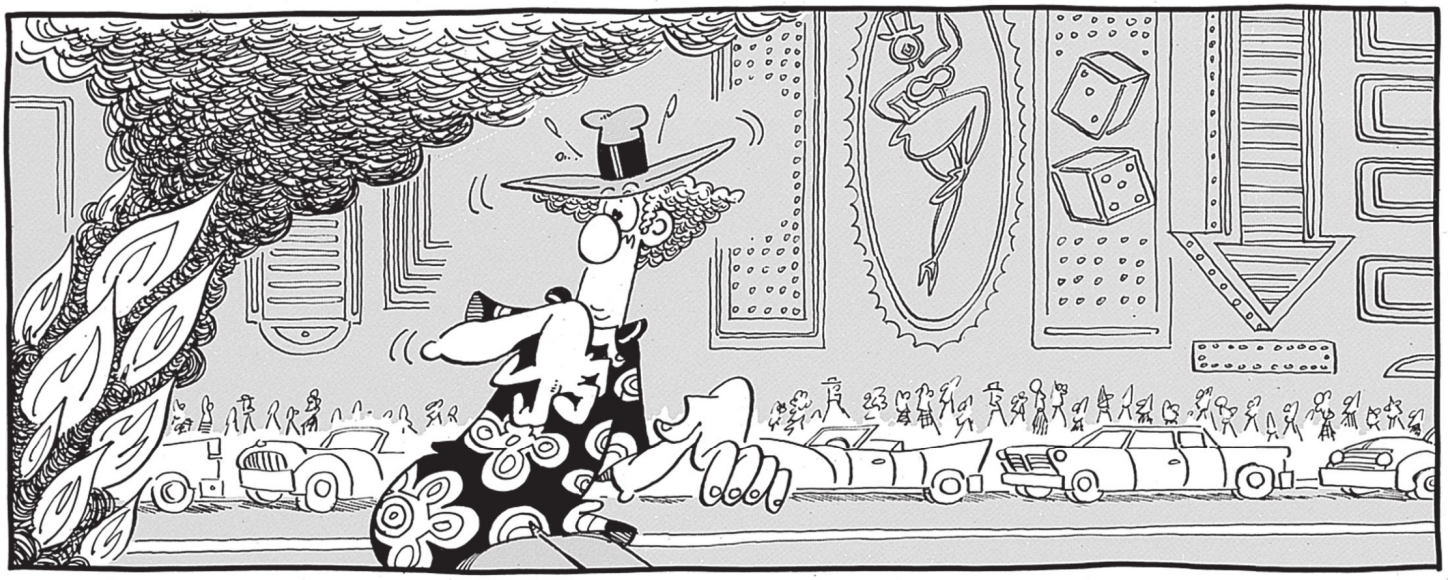
HORST BENOIT
Philbrick, NH

An acute allergic reaction to Bicycle brand playing cards often leaves him dropping out of winnable hands.

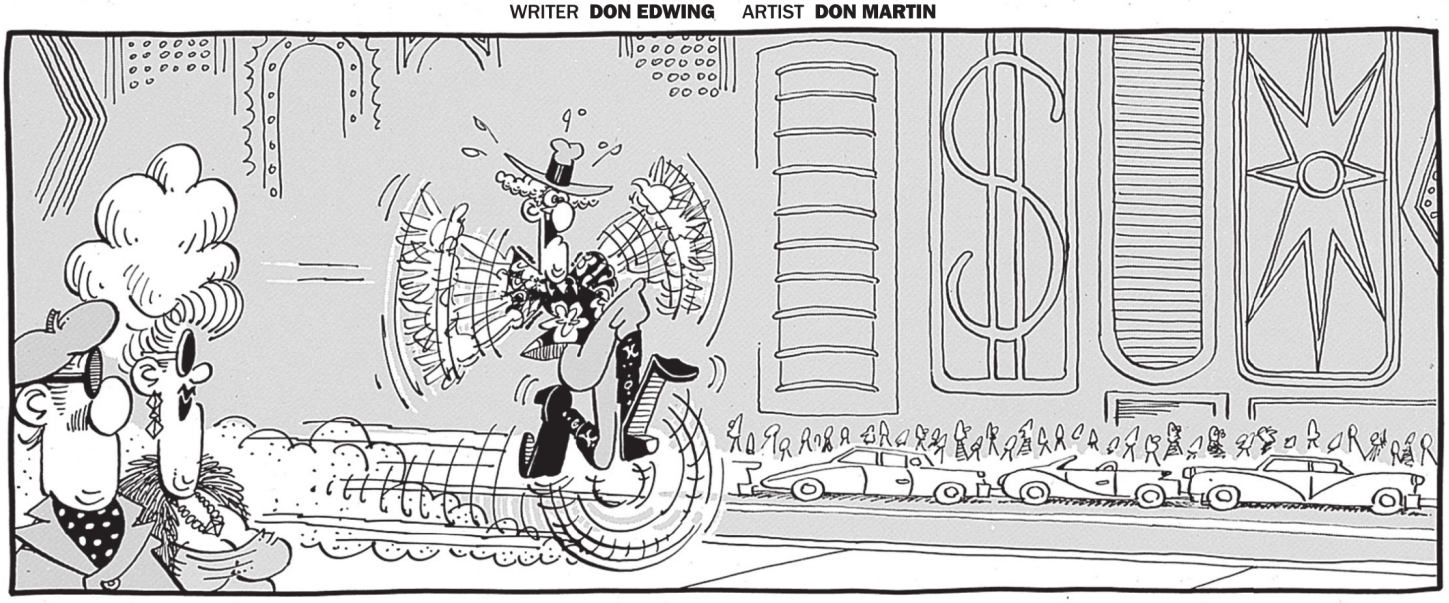
LOU KLOGSWATT
Sackawonka River, NJ

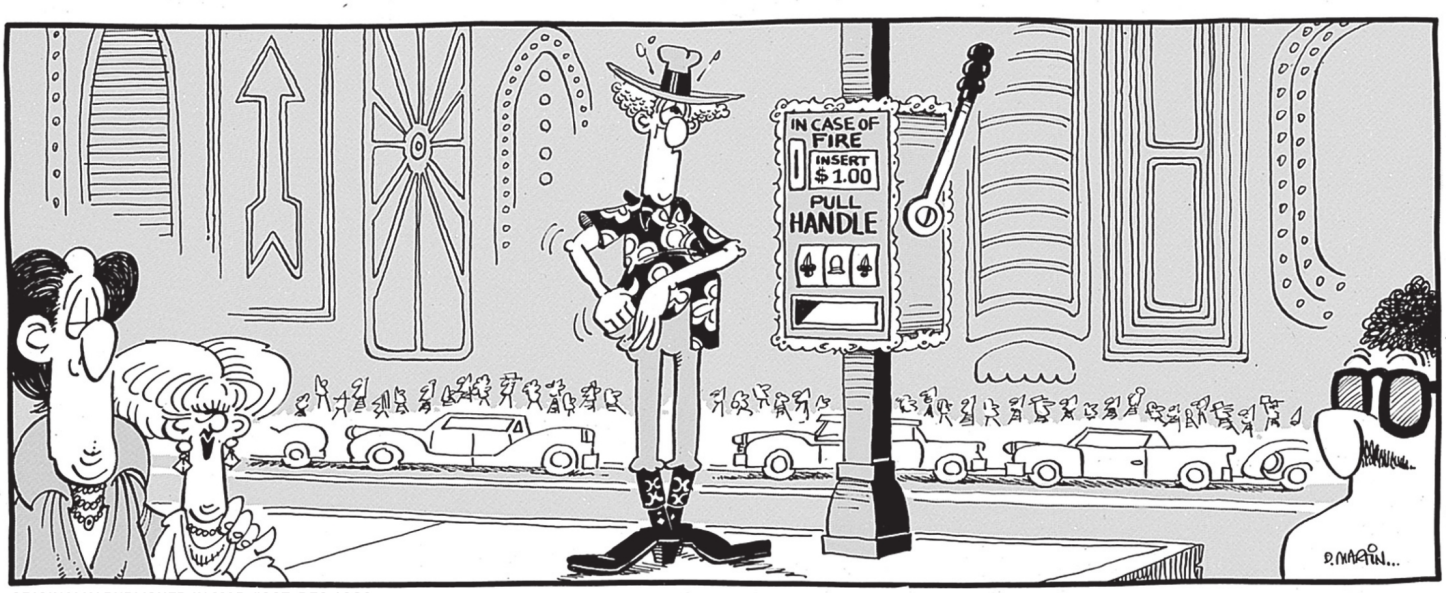
Known primarily for having what's known in card circles as a "Bingo" face.

Early One Evening in Las Vegas



WRITER **DON EDWING** ARTIST **DON MARTIN**



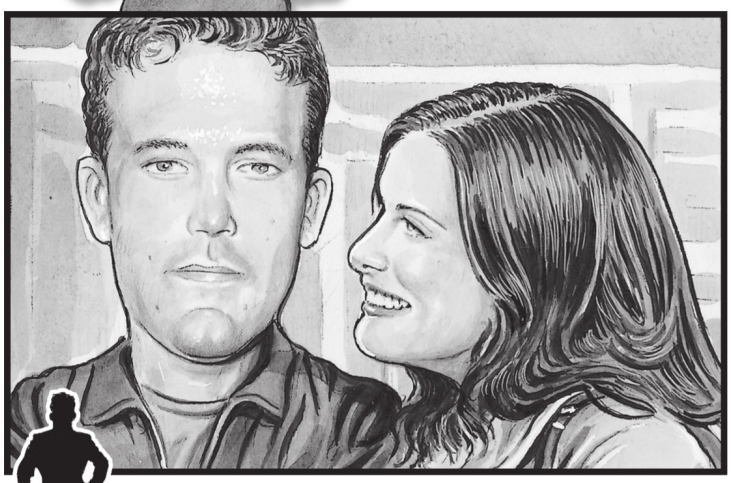


ALL BETS ARE AWFUL DEPT.
A MAD PEEK BEHIND THE SCENES AT Celebrity POKER SHOWDOWN
WRITER DESMOND DEVLIN, STEVE ROSSO, JOHN CALDWELL, AND DAVID SHAYNE
ARTIST TOM RICHMOND
Some of these celebrities don't play poker very well! They're depending on luck over skill!
I'm not surprised. That's how most of them became celebrities in the first place!
This is the greatest game!
Yeah, I love playing poker!
Me too, but between watching Celebrity Poker Showdown, World Poker Tour, ESPN World Series of Poker, Ultimate Poker Challenge and Poker Superstars, who has the friggin' time to actually play?
JOHN 3:16
Matthew Perry is playing for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Tony Hawk is playing for the ASPCA. And since she hasn't had a hit since American Pie, Shannon Elizabeth is playing for the Shannon Elizabeth Mortgage Fund!
My turn already? Go fish!
Somebody's playing footsie with me under the table!
Look! I can fit 75 poker chips in my mouth!
Ahhh. I would've backdoored the flush, if I hadn't folded after the flop. Not a bad beat, though. I was almost down to the felt anyway.
Ya know, it's jerks like MacDonald that ruin serious poker games!
21! WOO HOO!
I'd like to welcome everyone to another taping of Celebrity Poker Showdown! It's a good alternative for viewers who can't take the nervous excitement of Lingo reruns on the Game Show Network!
NEED NEW FRIENDS
She's in a tough spot, wondering if she made the right move.
You mean whether to raise or fold?
No, whether to appear on this disaster of a show or to hold out for The Surreal Life 9!
The director on this show is great! He catches every turn of the cards, every player's reaction, every bet!
Yeah! Where did he get his experience? Game shows? Sports broadcasts?
Neither! He used to run the surveillance security cameras at the Golden Nugget!
It sure takes a lot of nerve to shoot the whole wad on such a weak hand!
Not for a guy who agreed to make Gigli after he read the script!
CREW
Who's that poor soul in the corner crying his eyes out? A celebrity who just lost?
Actually, it's the agent of the celebrity who won. He just realized that this is the most money this client's made in 15 years and his commission is going to charity!
Shouldn't we be concerned that young people will see celebrities gambling and think it's cool to imitate them?
I wouldn't be too worried. Celebrities have been telling young people how to vote for years and they haven't been imitating that!
HEARTLESS MARK V. KORN
42
43

A MAD PEEK BEHIND THE SCENES AT Celebrity POKER SHOWDOWN
A lot of these celebs have excellent poker faces. No expression at all!
Yeah, they really know how to act!
Actually, I think it's the Botox!
ARTHUR
Where's Sharon Stone? She hasn't come back from the break yet.
She's such a diva, she's locked herself in her dressing room and refuses to come out unless she's guaranteed better terms! She's demanding a three-picture card deal in every hand!
Wow! Cheryl Hines is going all in with just a six-three off suit. You really have to admire her bold, aggressive play!
Yeah, when you're a rich celebrity with crappy cards it takes a lot of guts to gamble fake money while playing for a charity that gets paid whether you win or lose!
Tom Green's got a 6% chance of drawing the straight. He also has a 15% shot at getting two pair. And he has a 0.01% chance of ever working again in show biz!
What skill! What genius! What deception!
Which player are you talking about?
Not a player, our editing crew! They make this game seem fast-paced and exciting!
Star Jones! Tom Green! Jeff Garlin! Andy Richter! Ricki Lake! Kathy Najimy!...isn't this great?
Mostly, I'm happy this isn't strip poker!

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #452, APR 2005

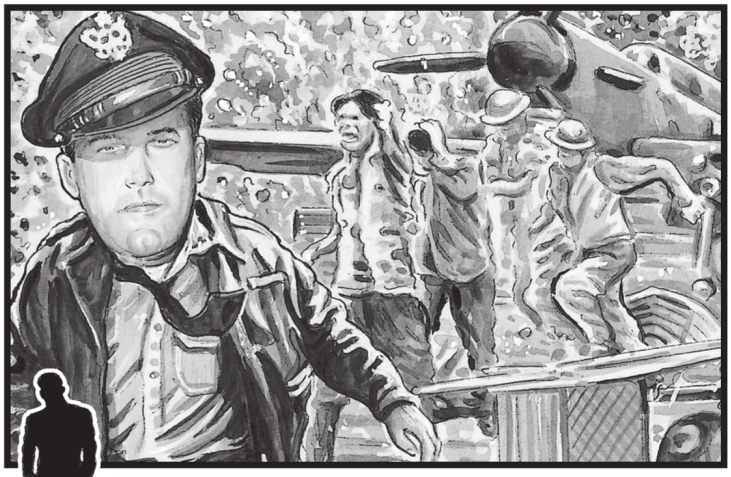
Hi, I'm Ben Affleck, movie star and poker champ! It's not a coincidence that a great actor like me is also a great poker player. In fact, it's my amazing acting skills that allow me to keep a poker face that no opponent can read! And now you too can master this subtle art and win big at any casino, thanks to my new DVD...



When you first sit down at a poker table, you want to show the dealer and the other players that while you're happy to be there, you really mean business. I recommend going with the expression I used in *Jersey Girl* when I met Liv Tyler's character for the first time and I wanted to convey that I was attracted to her, but not overly interested.

If you're holding a poor hand, you don't want to telegraph it to your opponents. You want to bluff them into folding by raising, while looking overly confident. I suggest using the expression I did in *The Sum of All Fears* when I gave good news to the President, played by James Cromwell.

If you have a great hand, don't broadcast it! Give the other players a false sense of security by looking slightly concerned, like I did in the scene from *Surviving Christmas* when James Gandolfini's character is just starting to get on my nerves.



For mediocre hands, it's best to be completely expressionless so your opponents have no idea what you're thinking. Try using the expression I had in the scene from *Pearl Harbor* when the base was under attack and my comrades were dying brutal deaths all around me.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #452, APR 2005

OUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

With the basic techniques taught in *Ben Affleck: The Art of the Poker Face*, you can win a bundle at the poker table, or at the very least, get a leading role in the next Kevin Smith movie!

TO ORDER

BEN AFFLECK: THE ART OF THE POKER FACE

FOR ONLY $19.95, VISIT WWW.STONEMUG.COM.

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS. SORRY, NO PERSONAL MARKERS ACCEPTED.

WRITER **ANDREW J. SCHWARTZBERG**
ARTIST
DREW FRIEDMAN

A MAD AD PARODY

Choose Your Fantasy Football League *Carefully!*

WRITER MATT COHEN ARTIST HERMANN MEJIA

LEAGUE NAME:
WIN SOME DOUGH!

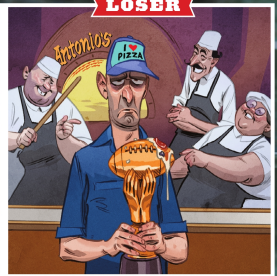
Who's In It?
The regulars at the local pizza joint

Season's Winner:
Gets the First Annual Antonio's Pizza Prize!

Season's Loser:
Gets the First Annual "NFL Peace Prize"

WINNER

LOSER



LEAGUE NAME:
THE SWIF-TDs

Who's In It?
The Humboldt, Iowa Taylor Swift Fan Club

Season's Winner:
Gets a jersey signed by Kansas City tight end Travis Kelce!

Season's Loser:
Gets a 1951 issue of Good Housekeeping signed by Kansas City kicker Harrison Butker

WINNER

LOSER

LEAGUE NAME:
THE DYS-*FUN*-CTIONALS
(Your dad made that pun)

Who's In It?
Your entire extended family

Season's Winner:
Inherits Grandpa's NFL memorabilia collection (...eventually! He's only 65, you ghoul!)

Season's Loser:
Has to pretend that Uncle Bruce has valid opinions about sports

WINNER

LOSER

LEAGUE NAME:
THE SEVEN HUDDLES OF EVELYN HUGO

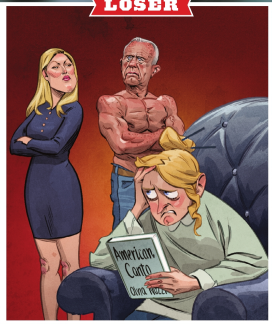
Who's In It?
Your book club

Season's Winner:
Gets to choose the snack and book for the next meeting, like Buffalo wings and *The Fourth Wing*!

Season's Loser:
Has to read Olivia Nuzzi's new book (without any white wine to cushion the blow)

WINNER

LOSER



LEAGUE NAME:
MANA-TO-MANA DEFENSE

Who's In It?
Some people you just met through Adam, the new guy at work

Season's Winner:
Gets to add Delney, Umezawa, and Greymond to their lineup next time!

Season's Loser:
Has to forfeit the right to play Florian, Goldmane, Voldaren, and...wait, this isn't fantasy football. You've been tricked into playing *Magic: The Gathering*!

WINNER

LOSER

LEAGUE NAME:
SHH...
(we don't talk about it!)

Who's In It?
Members of your secret support group

Season's Winner:
Gets the adrenaline rush of taking home the $2,000 betting pool

Season's Loser:
Gets ratted out to their Gamblers Anonymous sponsor

WINNER

LOSER

THE ODDS MUST BE CRAZY DEPT.

Want to make big money wagering on athletic events? We mean BIG money, the kind you have to carry around in wooden buckets! If you do, forget point spreads, betting pools and Las Vegas lines! We say, it's a can't lose proposition! It's a sure thing! It's money in the bank! IF you bet the farm on these...

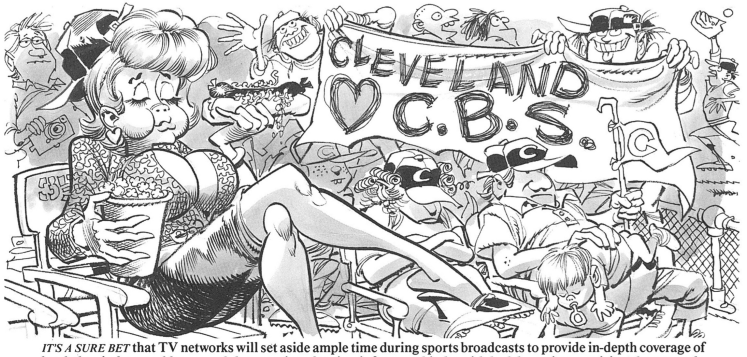
$URE BET$ IN SPORTS

WRITER **TOM KOCH** ARTIST **JACK DAVIS**

IT'S A SURE BET that a player who can't hit to save his life will be inserted into the lineup in the ninth inning "for defensive purposes," so he'll be able to come to bat in the 11th and lose the game.

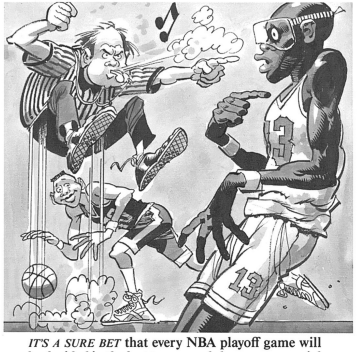
IT'S A SURE BET that NHL players will only make shots when the TV camera's view is totally blocked out, enabling home viewers to maintain their perfect record of never having seen a hockey goal scored.

IT'S A SURE BET that any player finding himself with the football after it has been blown dead by the referees will pretend he didn't hear the whistle and start to run toward the goal—also pretending not to notice that no one is chasing him.



IT'S A SURE BET that TV networks will set aside ample time during sports broadcasts to provide in-depth coverage of hot babes in low-cut blouses, adults carrying sleeping infants and jerks with bedsheet signs praising the network.

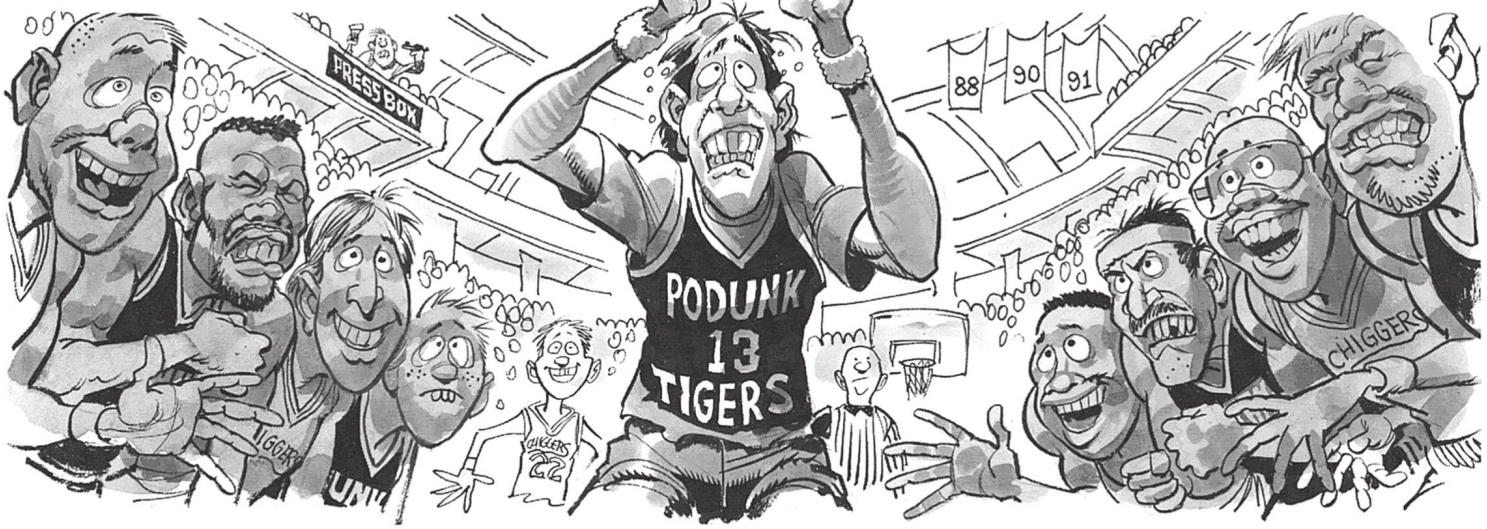
IT'S A SURE BET that tournament tennis players will always stare at their racquet after losing an easy point, to indicate their belief that a mysterious hole in the strings caused their lousy play.



IT'S A SURE BET that every NBA playoff game will be decided in the last ten seconds by a controversial charging foul involving minor body contact—which would never, ever be called a foul at any other time.

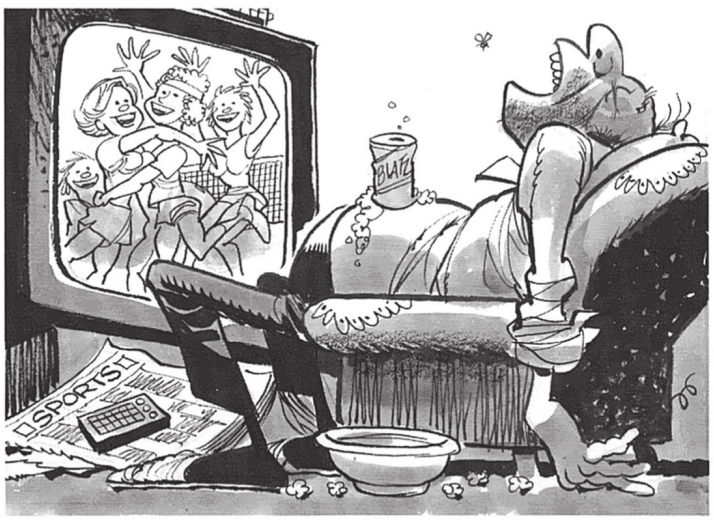
IT'S A SURE BET that after each play, an official will move the position of the ball one inch, in order to obscure the fact that football is an inexact game in which the ball is rarely spotted within two yards of the place where it was actually downed on the last play.

IT'S A SURE BET that star players who are one personal foul away from being disqualified will be benched and kept there, demonstrating the coaching philosophy that it's better to lose a basketball game than to risk having a star player foul out.



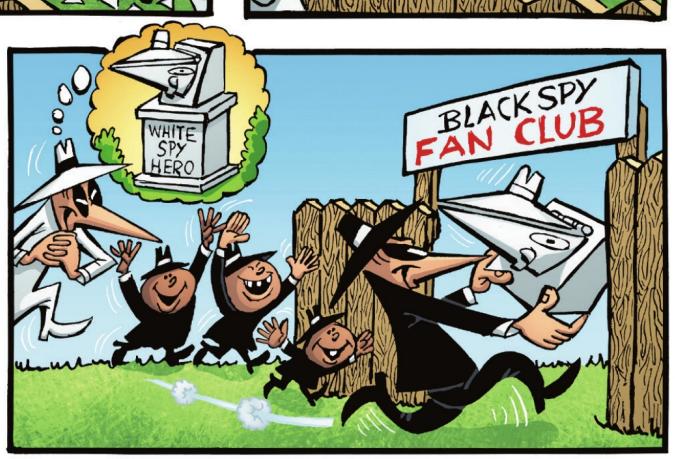
IT'S A SURE BET that during a basketball game, any player described by the announcer as "an excellent free-throw shooter" will immediately miss his next two free throws.

IT'S A SURE BET that batting lineups will continually be revised, to insure that a team's heaviest hitters will always come up with the bases empty, while .180 rookies will come up in the ninth inning with the bases loaded.



IT'S A SURE BET that volleyball players will embrace after scoring every point, to show that they are in good spirits even though only 12 people in the country are watching the game on ESPN.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #315, DEC 1992



WRITER & ARTIST **ANTONIO PROHIAS** COLORIST **CARRIE STRACHAN**

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #237, MAR 1983

It's a national craze! Everybody, into the pool! No, not the swimming pool, clod! The "Baseball High Inning" pool, the "Biggest Fish" pool, the "What Time Will The Ship Drop Anchor?" pool, the "In What Round Will The Fight End?" pool, and whatever other pool is being organized this week! How far will this new compulsion go? It's just getting started! And so, to add to the list, MAD now suggests . . .

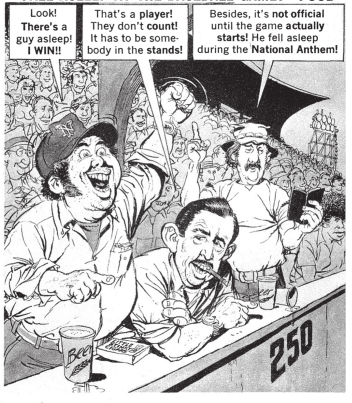
OTHER BETTING POOLS

WRITER LOU SILVERSTONE ARTIST GEORGE WOODBRIDGE

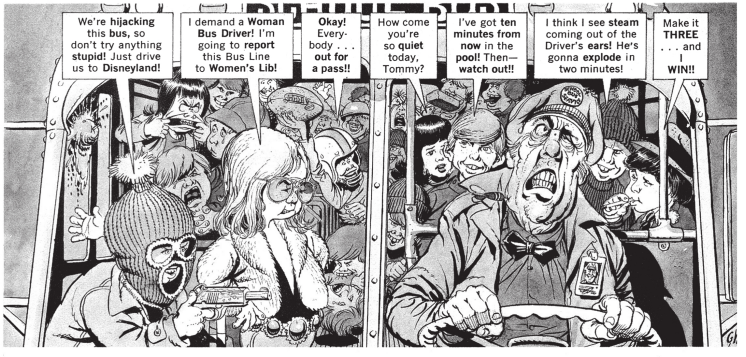
THE "FAMILY VACATION TRIP CAR-SICK" POOL

Gaaaaaaagggh!
Looks like we've got a winner! Who had Trenton?
That's not fair! Sis put her finger down his throat! Otherwise, he would've thrown up in Philadelphia like he always does . . . and I would've won!
Quick! Open the window! I think Pop's gonna be sick now!
What a waste! No one has Pop in the Pool!
I'm hungry!
JUNGLE HABITAT
JD-217

THE "WHAT INNING WILL THE FIRST SPECTATOR FALL ASLEEP AT THE BASEBALL GAME?" POOL


Look! There's a guy asleep! I WIN!!
That's a player! They don't count! It has to be somebody in the stands!
Besides, it's not official until the game actually starts! He fell asleep during the National Anthem!
250

THE "WHAT TIME DOES THE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER BLOW HIS TOP?" POOL


We're hijacking this bus, so don't try anything stupid! Just drive us to Disneyland!
I demand a Woman Bus Driver! I'm going to report this Bus Line to Women's Lib!
Okay! Everybody . . . out for a pass!!
How come you're so quiet today, Tommy?
I've got ten minutes from now in the pool! Then—watch out!!
I think I see steam coming out of the Driver's ears! He's gonna explode in two minutes!
Make it THREE . . . and I WIN!!

THE "WHAT TIME WILL THE NEXT OFFICE COLLECTION BE TAKEN?" POOL

I'm getting a little nervous! There hasn't been a collection for something in almost three whole hours!
I GOTTA win this one! I gave out more than I earned this week!
Okay, gang! Cough it up! Collection time . . .
Groaan! I lose again! I've got 2:45 in the pool, and it's only 2:40!
Which makes me the winner!
What's it FOR, anyway? Somebody getting married?
Close! it's a pregnancy!
WHOSE??
Sharon, at the switchboard! Her cat is having kittens! C'mon, kick in!

THE "HOW LONG AFTER A GUY FINALLY QUITS SMOKING WILL HE LIGHT UP AGAIN?" POOL

Hang in there, Marty, Baby! You can do it!
Le'me have a cigarette, please! I won't smoke it! I just wanna hold it—fondle it—squeeze the filter!
You gotta give him credit! He's really trying!
I'll say! How long has it been now . . .?
Fifteen minutes!
SMOKING PERMITTED

THE "WHO'LL BE FIRST ON THE BLOCK TO NEED FIRST AID AFTER SHOVELING HIS WALK?" POOL

Hey, look! The ambulance is stopping at my house! I win!! I can always count on my Pop!
That's not fair! You win EVERY time it snows!
What's the matter? Does your Old Man have a bad back . . . or a bum ticker?
Better than that! We've got a Power Snow Remover . . . and the first thing it removes is my Pop, usually to a Hospital!
SHIELDS EMERGENCY SERVICE AMBULANCE

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #176, JUL 1975

FLIPPING LIFE THE BIRD DEPT.

PIGEON DROP

AHHHH, ha ha ha!

What are you laughing at? My hair? My nostrils?

Wait, are you laughing because I'm in my forties?

You're right. How did I let this happen? I should have stayed young by snorting human bone powder like all the coolest billionaires do.

God, my life is half over and what have I even done with it? That's it, no more living in fear. I'm going to start taking more chances!

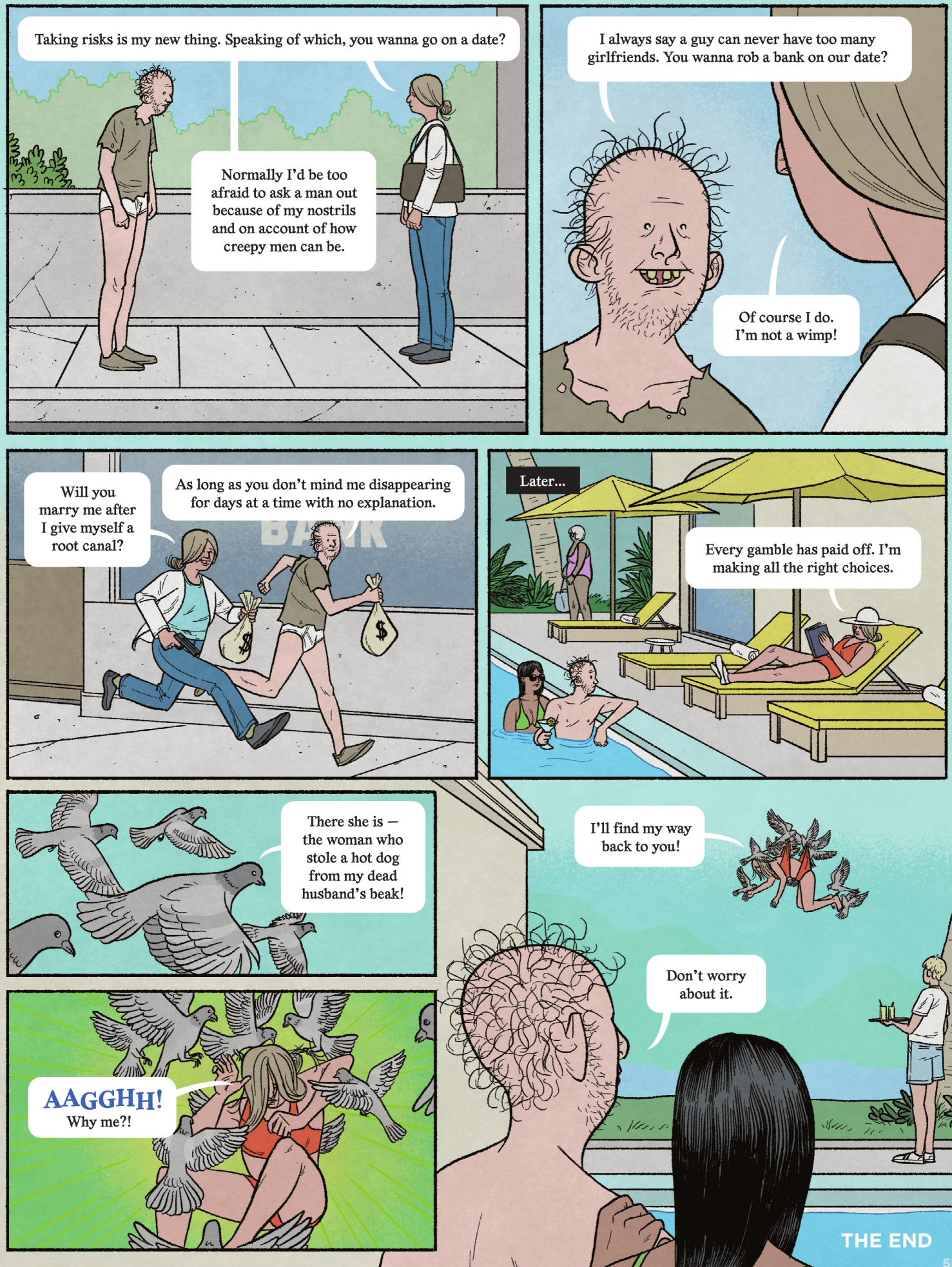
WRITER & ARTIST
JON ADAMS

You kids wanna laugh? Well, laugh at this…

Hey, dead pigeon, guess who's hungry and taking that hot dog out of your mouth?

SCHLUPP!

Hey lady, I like the way you're not afraid to take risks!

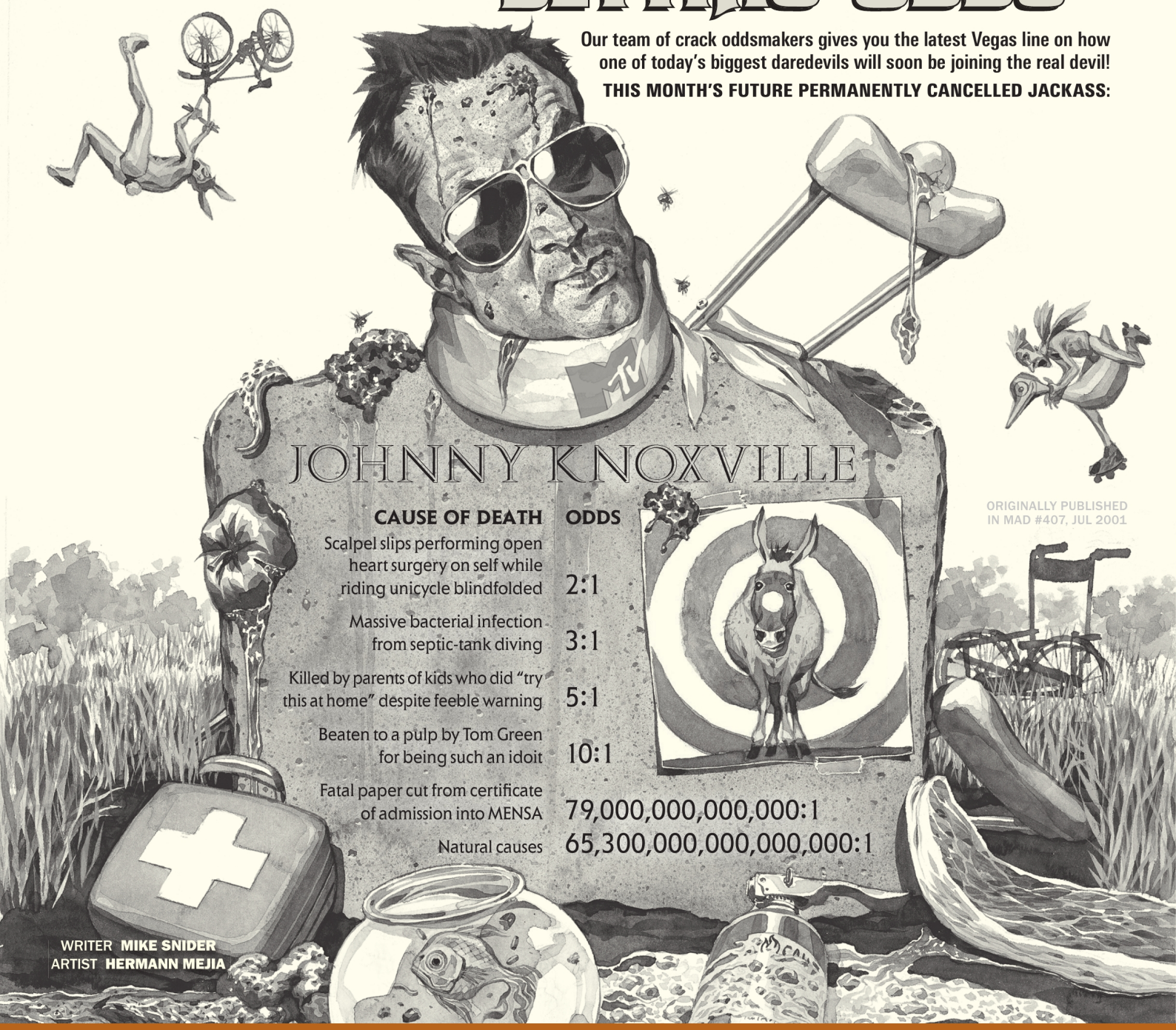

Taking risks is my new thing. Speaking of which, you wanna go on a date?
Normally I'd be too afraid to ask a man out because of my nostrils and on account of how creepy men can be.
I always say a guy can never have too many girlfriends. You wanna rob a bank on our date?
Of course I do. I'm not a wimp!
Will you marry me after I give myself a root canal?
As long as you don't mind me disappearing for days at a time with no explanation.
BANK
Later...
Every gamble has paid off. I'm making all the right choices.
There she is — the woman who stole a hot dog from my dead husband's beak!
I'll find my way back to you!
AAGGHH! Why me?!
Don't worry about it.
THE END

GRIEVING LAS VEGAS DEPT.

MAD's CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest daredevils will soon be joining the real devil!

THIS MONTH'S FUTURE PERMANENTLY CANCELLED JACKASS:



JOHNNY KNOXVILLE

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #407, JUL 2001

CAUSE OF DEATH	ODDS
Scalpel slips performing open heart surgery on self while riding unicycle blindfolded	2:1
Massive bacterial infection from septic-tank diving	3:1
Killed by parents of kids who did "try this at home" despite feeble warning	5:1
Beaten to a pulp by Tom Green for being such an idoit	10:1
Fatal paper cut from certificate of admission into MENSA	79,000,000,000,000:1
Natural causes	65,300,000,000,000,000:1

WRITER **MIKE SNIDER**
ARTIST **HERMANN MEJIA**

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WHAT NEW GAME OF CHANCE HAS PEOPLE ROLLING THE DICE ON STREETS ALL OVER?

HERE WE GO WITH AN ALL-NEW MAD FOLD-IN

A new game has people from all walks of life pressing their luck in cities and suburbs across the country. It's easy to play, but it moves fast! In order to come out on top, you must keep your eyes on the prize. See for yourself by folding this page as shown.

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

AVOWED RISK-TAKERS OF ALL STRIPES ARE RIDING DRAMATIC HIGHS AND LOWS PLAYING THIS UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED GAME OF CHANCE. UNLESS CAREFUL, ALERT ATTENTION IS PAID, THE ODDS ARE GOOD THAT YOUR ODDS WILL BE BAD.

A WRITER & ARTIST **JOHNNY SAMPSON** B

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FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

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WRITER & ARTIST JOHNNY SAMPSON

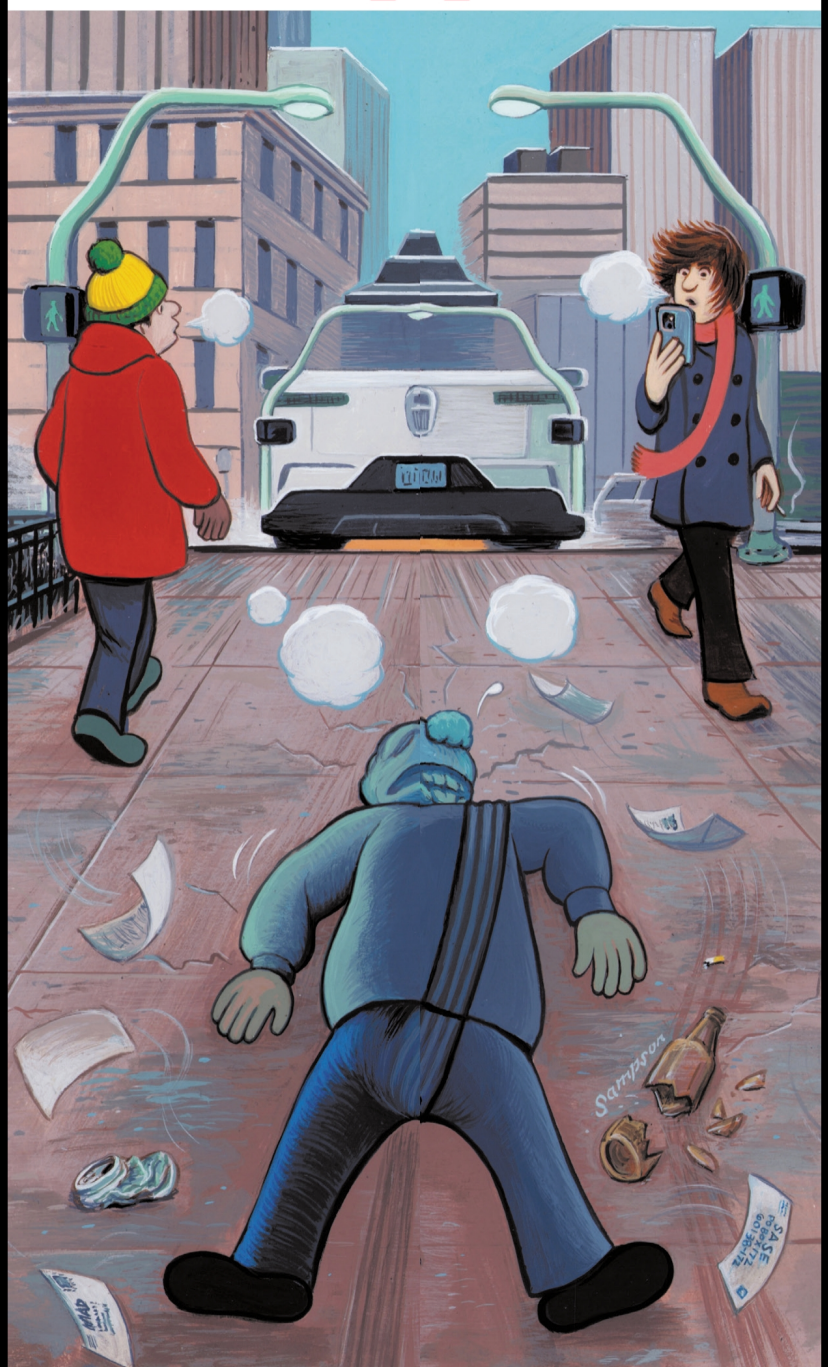
A

B

WHAT NEW GAME OF CHANCE HAS PEOPLE ROLLING THE DICE ON STREETS ALL OVER?

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



AVOIDING DRIVER-LESS CARS

A B

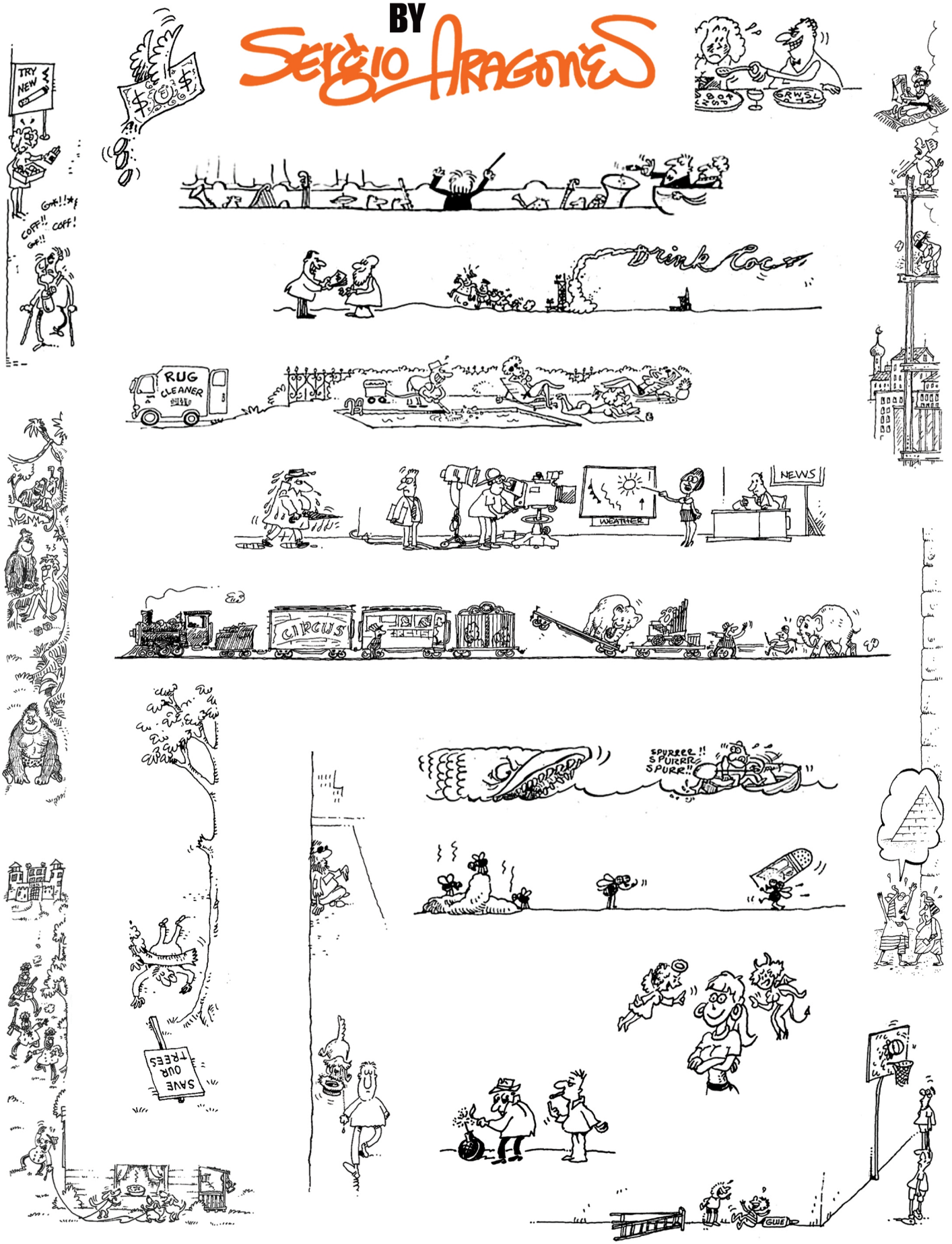
JACK SQUAT
APP
FREE SIGN-UP
...followed by irreversible 24-hour access to your bank account!
SUPER BOWL TOP PROP BET
GO 5-FOR-5 and Get a HUGE PAYOUT
...if it's a tie game at halftime...
AND
...if under 90% of the ads include cute animals...
AND
...the homes of both QBs are robbed during the game...
AND
...the color of the Gatorade dumped on the winning coach's head is chartreuse...
AND
...Janet Jackson attends the game and whips out her other boob...
THEN...YOU WIN!
BET ON ANY SPORT, ANYWHERE!
BASKETBALL ★ FOOTBALL ★
THE OTHER "FOOTBALL" ★
BASEBALL ★ PICKLEBALL ★
VOLLEYBALL ★ BUTTERBALL ★
SHUFFLEBOARD ★ ARCHERY ★
COCKROACH RACES ★
WIFE-CARRYING ★ HIDE-AND-SEEK ★
ULTIMATE FRISBEE ★ QUIDDITCH ★
PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS WITH FAST-CHANGING "DON'T WALK" SIGNS ★ DOUBLE DUTCH ★
NAKED CURLING ★
THREE-LEGGED RACING ★
MARBLES ★ F MARRY KILL ★
GERMAN SHOPPING CART RETURN ★ CORNHOLE ★
BUZKASHI
A MAD AD PARODY
WRITER DESMOND DEVLIN
ARTIST MIKE LOEW

Gambling losses are tax-deductible. Go bankrupt, and stick it to the IRS!
Please gamble responsibly. When your family is living under a highway off-ramp, you're the one responsible!

DRAWN OUT DRAMAS

BY

Sergio Aragonés



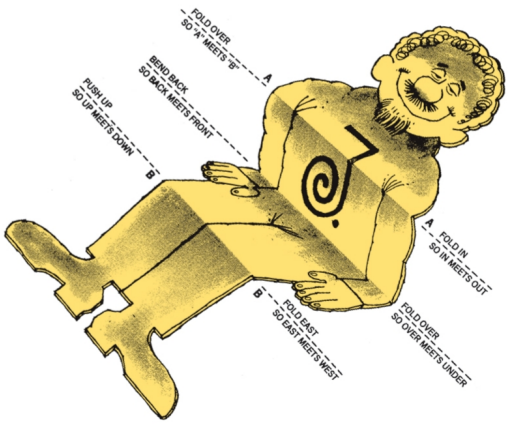
MAD™

DIGITAL EDITION

BONUS MATERIAL!

Down to the felt? Win back some of your lost brain cells with this straight flush (down the toilet) of a parody from MAD #444, August 2004.

And for your final game let Al Jaffee deal you a “high” hand that you’ll want to Fold-In! From MAD #459, November 2005.


FOLD OVER SO "A" MEETS "B"
A
BEND BACK SO BACK MEETS FRONT
PUSH UP SO UP MEETS DOWN
B
A
FOLD IN SO IN MEETS OUT
B
FOLD EAST SO EAST MEETS WEST
FOLD OVER SO OVER MEETS UNDER

LAS VAGUEST

WRITER **CHARLIE KADAU** ARTIST **MORT DRUCKER**

Ring a ding ding! The **Rat Pack** is **back!** I'm **Frank Sinatra**, here with the **ghosts** of **Dean Martin**, **Sammy Davis Jr.**, **Peter Lawford** and **Joey Bishop** to check out **Sin City**, **OUR** city — **Las Vegas**, **Nevada!**

Man, have things **changed! Roller coasters? Theme restaurants?** Where are the **$2 craps tables** and the **$20 hookers?** In **my** day, if you wanted a **nightcap**, you'd call **room service** and they'd **send up a girl!**

She'd have your **night-cap?**

No, she WAS the night-cap!

Ha ha ha! You know, when I was around, I could **sing**, I could **act**, I could **dance**, but with **these cool cats**, I was a **straight man! Watch**, I'll do it **again**...

Way back when, the **casinos** were for **gambling**, **drinking** and **music** — **period!** And **what's** that **hairy beast** doing **in here?**

Dino, that's a **white Siberian tiger!**

I was **talking** to the **tiger!**

Vegas was the **first city** in **America** where you could get a **shrimp cocktail** at **2 p.m.** or **2 a.m.!** Although at **2 a.m.**, it'll be the **same shrimp cocktail** that'd been **sitting out** in the **open**, **unrefrigerated** since **2 p.m.!** And **that** was the **charm** of **this town**— keep the **roulette wheels** and the **stomachs turning!**

Why am **I** a **ghost?** I'm **Joey Bishop** and I'm **still alive!** It's only my **career** that's **dead!** And **why** did **NBC** take a **glitzy**, **exciting casino/hotel setting** and turn it into a **dull** and **boring TV show?** As our **friends** in **Mexico** might say, I haven't...

I'm **Big Dread Decline**, head of the **surveillance team** here at the **Moneyseeko Casino and Resort!** No **dink's** gonna run a **scam** or pull a **heist** in **my casino** or I'll **break his face!** I've been in **Vegas** a **long time**, ever since my brothers **Michael** and **Fredo** came here and made **Moe Greene** an **offer** he **couldn't refuse!** You see, **Tattaglia** and **Barzini** were **muscling in** on our **action** in **New York**, and after **Tessio turned** on the **family** we...hey, **what movie** did you **THINK** I was gonna **talk** about, that **stinker** I made with **Bette Midler**, **For the Boys?**

I'm **Dandy McBoy**, Dread's **right-hand man!** I'm **happy** being the **official casino pretty boy**, but I **work** here so many **hours** that I need a **vacation!** I **can't take Vegas** anymore! I need to **get away** from the **lights**, the **noise**, the **glitz!** So **tomorrow** I leave for a **week** in **Reno!**

I'm **Big Dread's daughter**, **Delinter!** I wake up every morning and give **thanks! Not** because my **father** got me this **glamorous job**, and **not** because I work in the **most exciting city** in **America!** No, I give **thanks** because there's absolutely **no family resemblance** between my **father** and **me!**

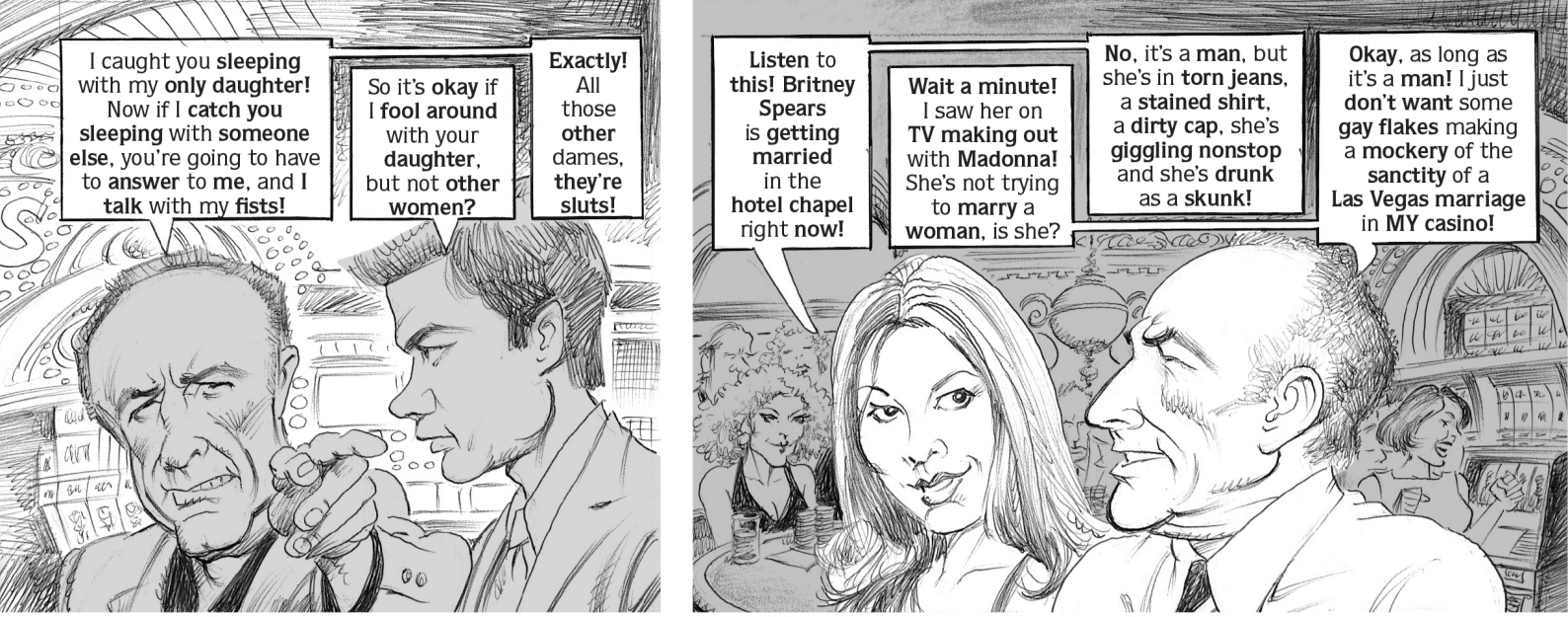
I'm **Merry Conical** and this is **Scam Pain!** We're the **busty**, uh, I mean **busy social directors** at the **Moneyseeko!** I oversee all the **conventions** that stay at our **resort** every year and **Scam** caters to the **needs** of the **high rollers** who visit the **casino** to gamble **hundreds of thousands** of **dollars!** Our **official title** here is **E.C.!**

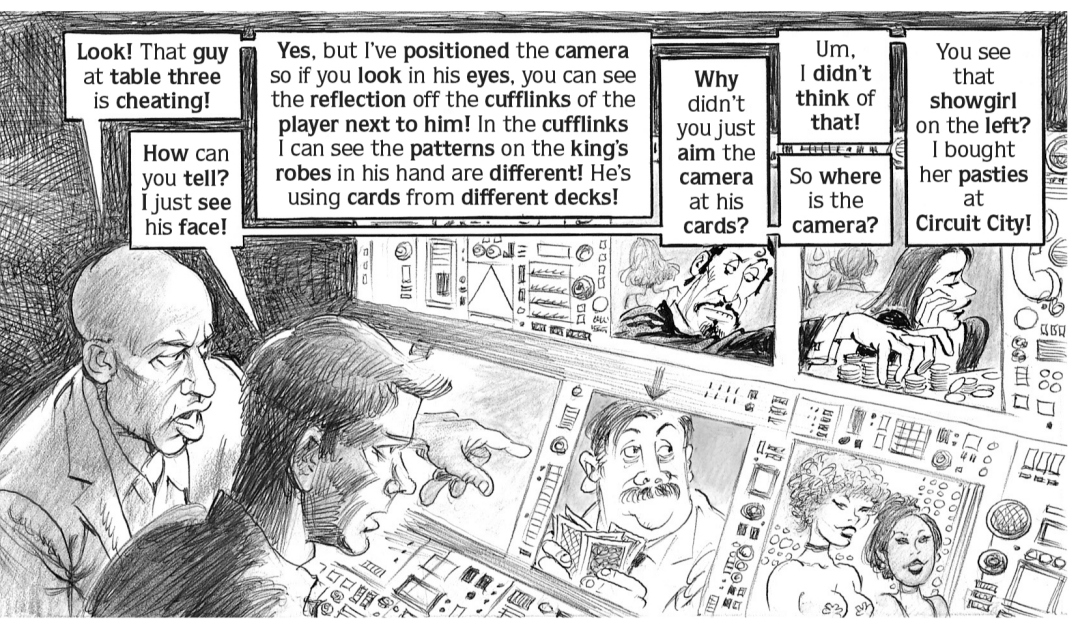
Does that stand for **Entertainment Coordinators?**

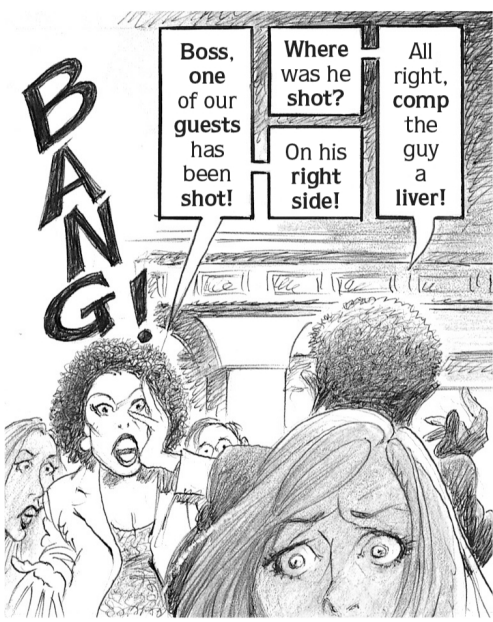
No, **Eye Candy!** If it wasn't for our **short skirts**, **low-cut tops**, **D-cups** and **fashion model looks**, we'd be calling **Keno numbers** in a **Wyoming Indian casino!**

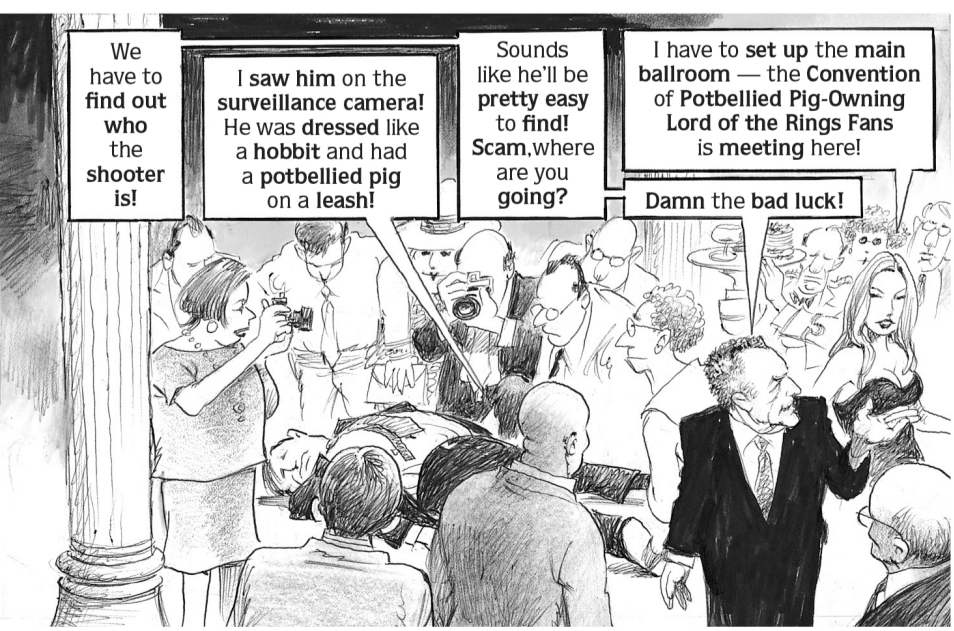
I'm **Psyche Common**, resident **electronics expert** and **hotel valet!** What's up with **that?** That's like **Michael Eisner** being both **Disney's CEO** and the guy who wears the **Pluto costume!** I'll give you an idea as to how **wired** for **surveillance** this **casino** is... it has **almost** as many **cameras** as **Paris Hilton's bedroom!**

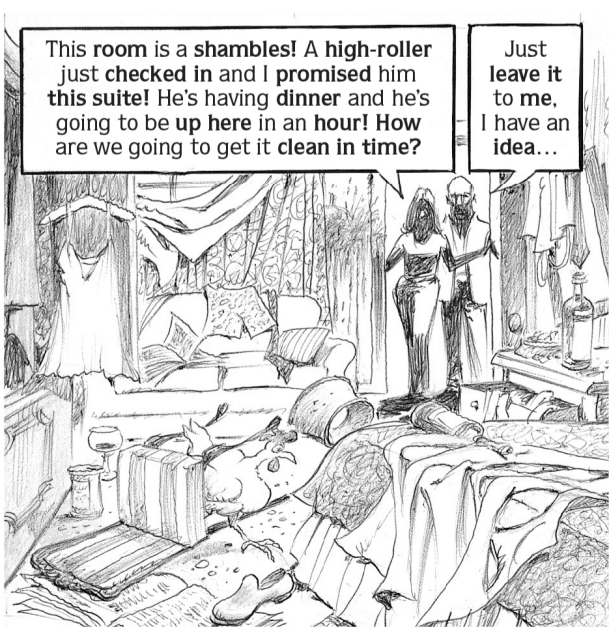
I'm the **pit boss**, **Flesha Dolt! Nothing** happens on the **casino floor** that **I'm** not **aware of!** Right now you'll have to **excuse me**, a **drunken gambler** just **threw up** on the **roulette table**... besides **red** and **black**, people are starting to **bet** on **green**, **brown** and **yellow! Yecch!**


I caught you sleeping with my only daughter! Now if I catch you sleeping with someone else, you're going to have to answer to me, and I talk with my fists!
So it's okay if I fool around with your daughter, but not other women?
Exactly! All those other dames, they're sluts!
Listen to this! Britney Spears is getting married in the hotel chapel right now!
Wait a minute! I saw her on TV making out with Madonna! She's not trying to marry a woman, is she?
No, it's a man, but she's in torn jeans, a stained shirt, a dirty cap, she's giggling nonstop and she's drunk as a skunk!
Okay, as long as it's a man! I just don't want some gay flakes making a mockery of the sanctity of a Las Vegas marriage in MY casino!

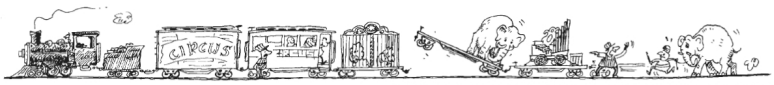

Look! That guy at table three is cheating!
How can you tell? I just see his face!
Yes, but I've positioned the camera so if you look in his eyes, you can see the reflection off the cufflinks of the player next to him! In the cufflinks I can see the patterns on the king's robes in his hand are different! He's using cards from different decks!
Why didn't you just aim the camera at his cards?
Um, I didn't think of that!
So where is the camera?
You see that showgirl on the left? I bought her pasties at Circuit City!


BANG!
Boss, one of our guests has been shot!
Where was he shot?
On his right side!
All right, comp the guy a liver!


We have to find out who the shooter is!
I saw him on the surveillance camera! He was dressed like a hobbit and had a potbellied pig on a leash!
Sounds like he'll be pretty easy to find! Scam, where are you going?
I have to set up the main ballroom — the Convention of Potbellied Pig-Owning Lord of the Rings Fans is meeting here!
Damn the bad luck!


This room is a shambles! A high-roller just checked in and I promised him this suite! He's having dinner and he's going to be up here in an hour! How are we going to get it clean in time?
Just leave it to me, I have an idea...

WEATHER
NEWS



LATER...

Wow! How did you get this **room** so **spotless?**

Simple! I called up **Gil Grissom** and the **CSI team** and told them there was a **grisly, unsolved murder** in here... they **showed up** and removed **every hair, every dust speck, every mysterious stain**... they're **better** than a **dozen maids!**

You're in **Las Vegas, Dread!** The **shows!** The **lights!** The **excitement!** The **glamour!** Yet you have a **sourpuss expression** every day and **never** so much as **crack a joke!**

Yeah, **imagine** how I'd be if I worked in **some dull, culturally bereft hellhole** like **Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina!**

SEND MONEY

What'll you **men** be **having?**

I'll have a **three-minute egg!**

I'll have a **bowl** of **broken glass**...with **whole milk!**

Whole milk? Man, you're a **tough guy, Dread!**

I was in the **CIA**, you know!

What **sort** of **operations** did you do?

Mostly in **Latin** countries... **Panama, El Salvador, Spain**...

What did you **do** in **Spain?**

Let's just say you **never** heard **anything else** from **those guys** who recorded **"The Macarena"** ...you **follow?**

Here's **your food**, guys!

Wait a minute! This is **hard-boiled!** I said I wanted a **three-minute egg!**

Sorry fella, there aren't any **clocks** in **Vegas!** I do the **best** I can!

A **woman** in the **casino** just took off her **shirt** and is **dancing topless** on the **casino floor!**

Quick! There's only **one way** to handle this: **charge everyone** in the area a **cover** and a **two-drink minimum!**

Okay, **boss! Wow**, that's why **he** makes the **big money!**

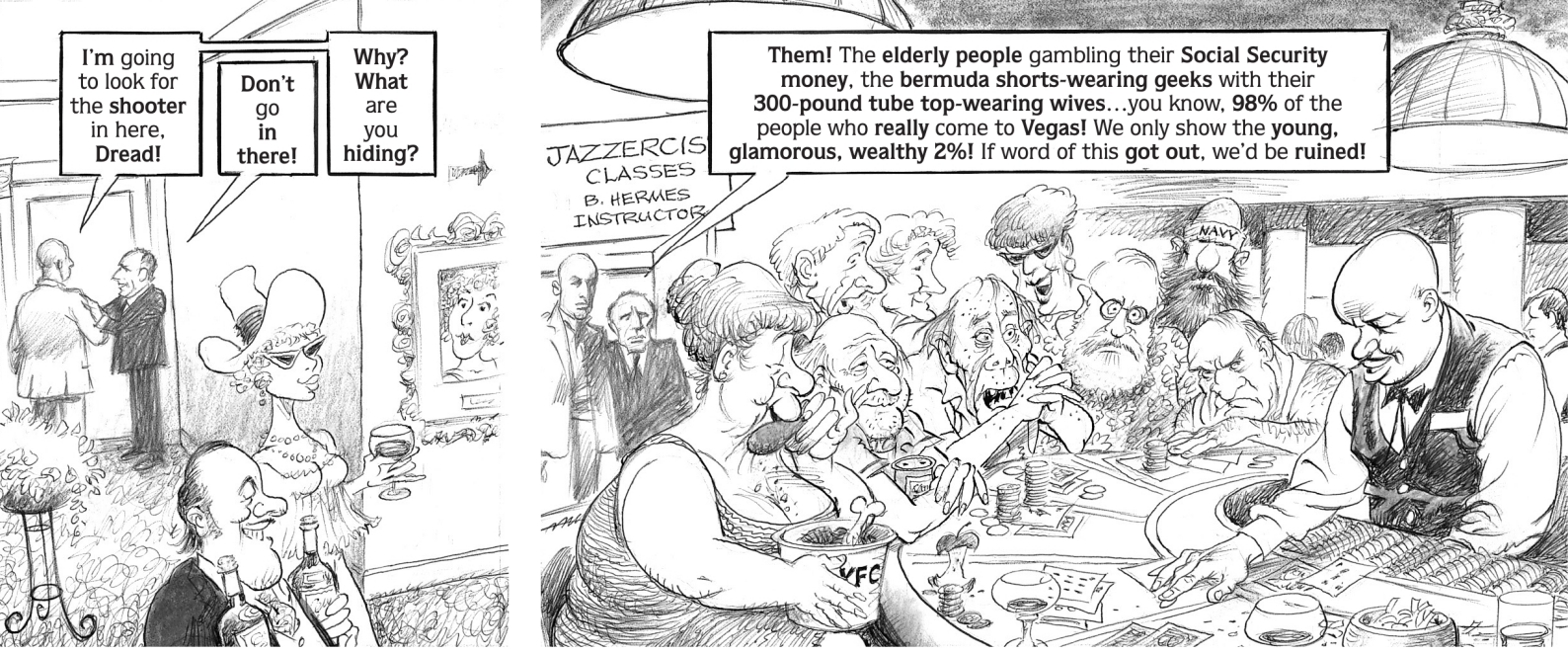
We're **very happy** to have you as a **guest** at our **resort**...as a **token** of our **appreciation**, we have **two complimentary tickets** to the **Celine Dion** show for you! **Front row!**

Front row? I came here to receive **V.I.P. treatment** and **that's** what you offer me? Can't you **get me** something **better?**

Better?

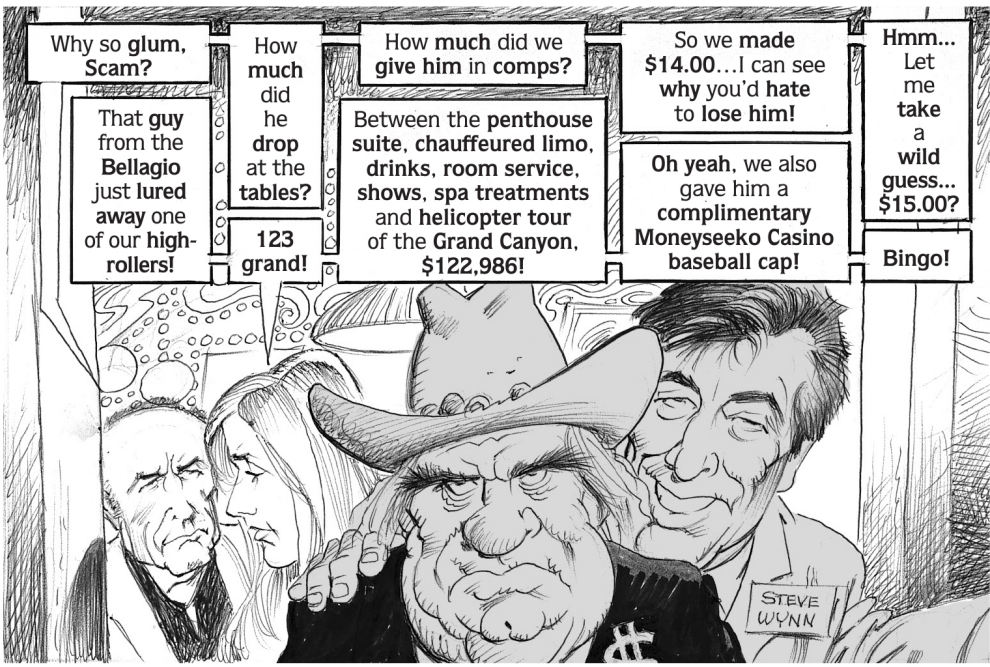
Like the **60th row!** Have you **heard** that woman **sing?** She **brays** like a **crazed donkey!**

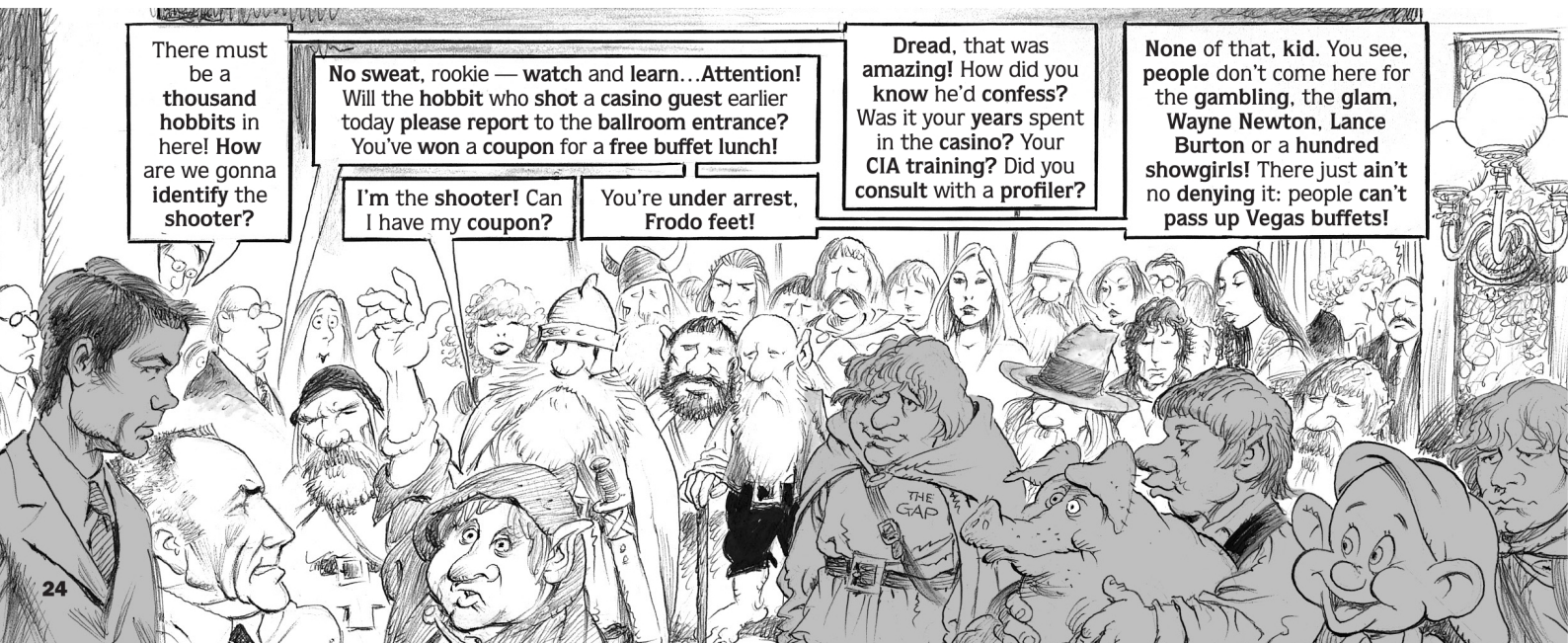
NOW APPEARING... DAN NELSON PRODUCTIONS


I'm going to look for the shooter in here, Dread!
Don't go in there!
Why? What are you hiding?
Them! The elderly people gambling their Social Security money, the bermuda shorts-wearing geeks with their 300-pound tube top-wearing wives...you know, 98% of the people who really come to Vegas! We only show the young, glamorous, wealthy 2%! If word of this got out, we'd be ruined!
JAZZERCIS CLASSES
B. HERMES
INSTRUCTOR
NAVY
VFC

I've got a celebrity down here who's up a quarter mil at blackjack! I'm suspicious she may be using some sophisticated counting scheme!
Really? Who's the celebrity?
It's Jessica Simpson!
Jessica Simpson? Trust me, she's just on a lucky streak!
THE VIEW

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #444, AUG 2004


Why so glum, Scam?
That guy from the Bellagio just lured away one of our high-rollers!
How much did he drop at the tables?
123 grand!
How much did we give him in comps?
Between the penthouse suite, chauffeured limo, drinks, room service, shows, spa treatments and helicopter tour of the Grand Canyon, $122,986!
So we made $14.00...I can see why you'd hate to lose him!
Oh yeah, we also gave him a complimentary Moneyseeko Casino baseball cap!
Hmm... Let me take a wild guess... $15.00?
Bingo!
STEVE WYNN


There must be a thousand hobbits in here! How are we gonna identify the shooter?
No sweat, rookie — watch and learn...Attention! Will the hobbit who shot a casino guest earlier today please report to the ballroom entrance? You've won a coupon for a free buffet lunch!
I'm the shooter! Can I have my coupon?
You're under arrest, Frodo feet!
Dread, that was amazing! How did you know he'd confess? Was it your years spent in the casino? Your CIA training? Did you consult with a profiler?
None of that, kid. You see, people don't come here for the gambling, the glam, Wayne Newton, Lance Burton or a hundred showgirls! There just ain't no denying it: people can't pass up Vegas buffets!
THE GAP

WHAT KIND OF POT HAVE MANY YOUNG AMERICANS BECOME HIGHLY ADDICTED TO?

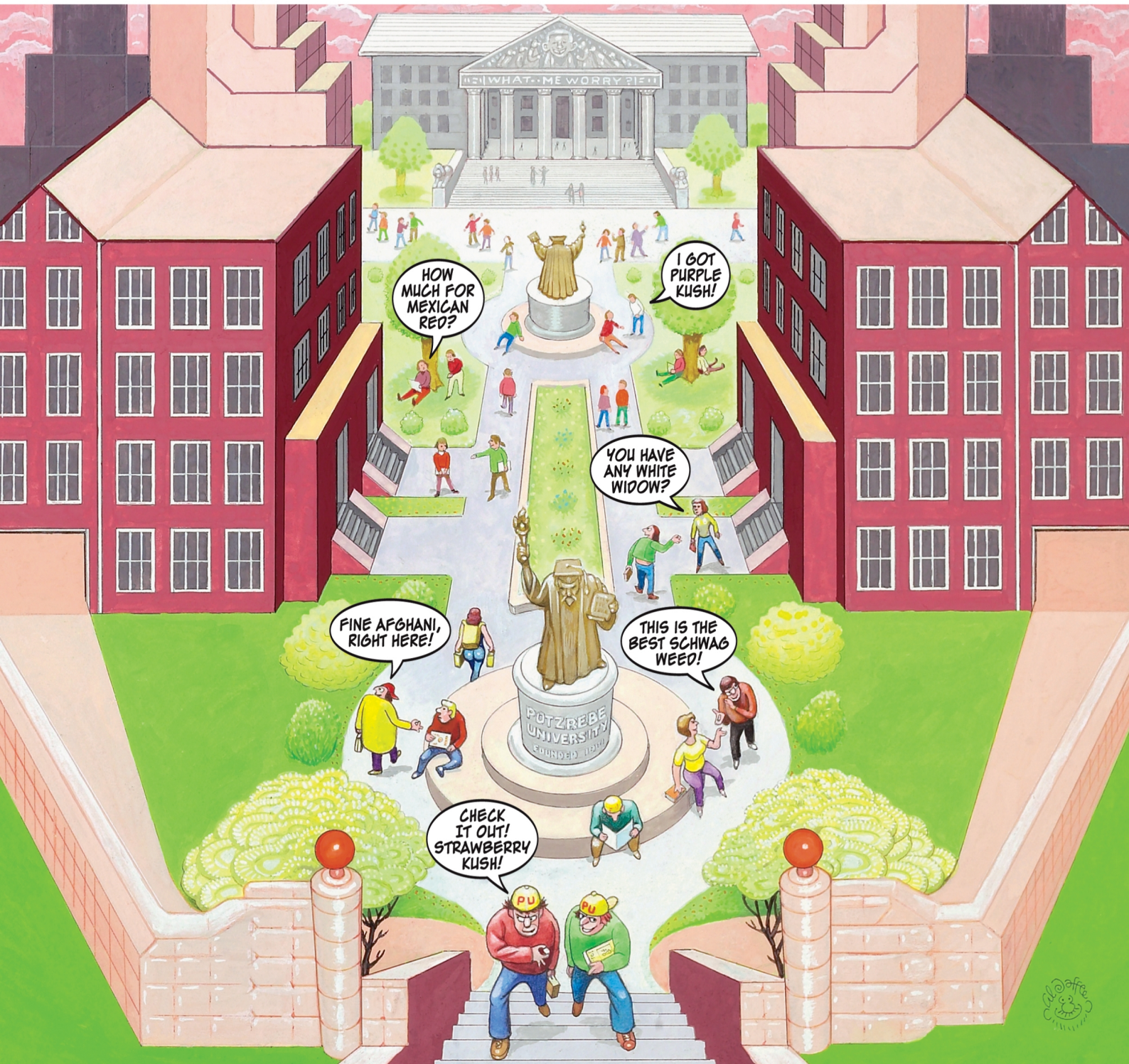
HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

MAD FOLD-IN

There is a real epidemic that has taken hold of America's youth. The stakes are high and kids are falling prey — they're risking it all for a big score. To find out what this compulsion is, fold page in as shown.

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



THIS YEAR SAW A CERTAIN ADDICTION BECOME POPULAR ALL OVER. HOWEVER, THE REAL KICKER IS, NO ONE SEEMS TO CARE ABOUT THE POTENTIAL RISK INVOLVED IN THIS BEHAVIOR

A WRITER & ARTIST **AL JAFFEE** B

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FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

WHAT, ME WORRY?
HOW MUCH FOR MEXICAN RED?
I GOT PURPLE KUSH!
YOU HAVE ANY WHITE WIDOW?
FINE AFGHANI, RIGHT HERE!
THIS IS THE BEST SCHWAG WEED!
CHECK IT OUT! STRAWBERRY KUSH!
Al Jaffee

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WRITER & ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

A

B

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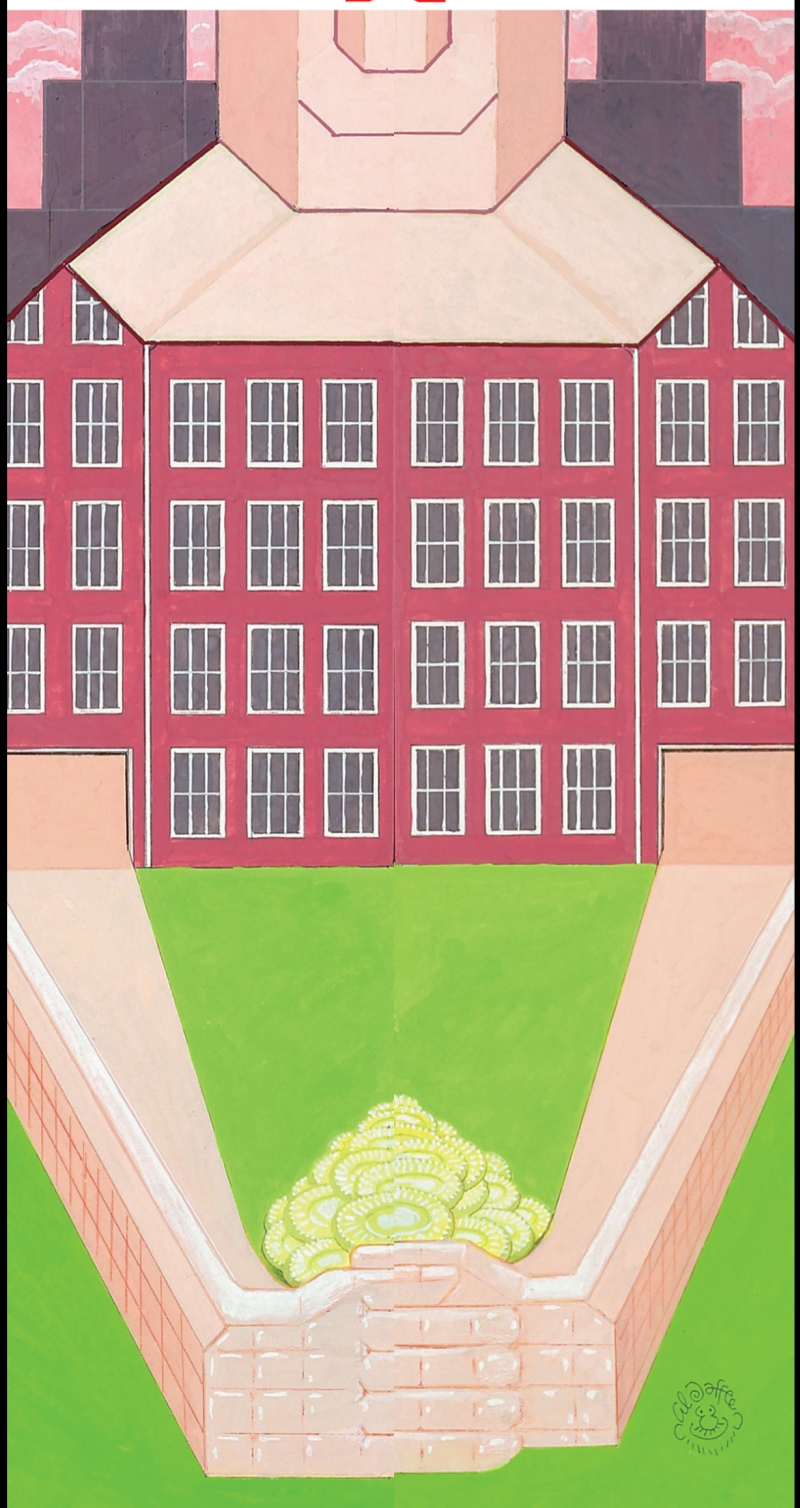

THE POKER

POT

A B

MAD™